ぼくは異世界で付与魔法と召喚魔法を天秤にかける 1

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「わたしでも、強くなれますか。
賀谷さんのように強くなれますか」

「えっと、喜んでいただけましたか」
「男の子はみんな、ブルマが大好きだって」
「え、なにが」
中等部3年
竜輝珠樹
中等部3年
下園亜理栖
高等部1年
志木縁子
中等部1年
田上宮観阿

「この白い部屋から出たら、
きみはまた処女に戻るわけだ。
つまりこの部屋でする限り、
ぼくは毎回、きみのはじめてを……」

「わたしはもう、無力じゃない」

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Chapter 01: Trap

At the end of September, Saturday afternoon, after school.

In a forest about 5 min away from the road linking the High School Section and the Middle School Section, I was holding a shovel, covered with mud, trying to make a trap.

The depth of this hole is far deeper than a person's height.

This is already the third trap that I have dug, hence it is quite easy. If you also count the already dug and filled traps, this is already the 5th one. After digging so many, more or less you will become skilled at it.

When I feel that it is almost there, I stabbed the spears I prepared in advance into the trap. That is the bamboo after I cut, and sharpened into a simple spear. I placed the tip upwards, and stabbed it into the hole. One after another. Rigidly, one after another.

I pulled at a rope that is tied to a nearby tree, and climbed out of the hole, then carefully covered the trap with leaves, as a disguise.

I have to be faster, there is not much time.

That fellow is coming.

I wiped the sweat from my forehead. Now it is 2.30pm.

For that fellow, I even left clues. I left a message, to guide that fellow to this place.

I am guessing, that fellow probably won't notice that that is a「message」. He probably will think that that is a mistake that I have accidentally made, and he is thinking that I am hiding something important here.

And because of that important thing, that is the reason why I came to this place everyday—— he will probably think like that.

He must have thought, that recently I disappeared as soon as school ended, is because I came here.

From a certain viewpoint, that sort of thinking is not wrong. Because I have been digging traps here.

The first trap, because I feel unsatisfied about it, hence I buried it.

The second trap, though it is passable, but I hoped that it can be more comprehensive, hence I also buried it. Because the thing that I am about to do is not allowed to fail.

I am about to kill someone.

I will let that fellow drop into this trap, and kill him.

Just by dropping on the bamboo spear might not be able to kill, hence I had hidden a few plastic containers under a nearby tree, and they are filled with gasoline.

I intend to wait for the guy to drop into the trap, and then pour in the gasoline from above, before throwing in a torch.

If that fellow is really lucky, or perhaps it is not enough for him to die.

Hence I prepared a bamboo spear that is over 5 meter long. I cut the bamboo diagonally, then pared the cutting to make it very sharp, I will use this bamboo spear and stab him from above. Without stopping, until he is no longer moving.

Like this everything will end, and the revenge ends here.

Then what do I do? I don't really care about that much.

If this continues, I will definitely be killed by that guy one day.

I will be bullied by him until I die, and I will also be obliterated in the society.

That fellow is very powerful, and of course his wrist power is very strong, but there is not only that.

That fellow's parents are the influential people who funded the school.

It sounds like the plot in manga, but that is really the case in reality.

What this student have done, not even the school teachers dare to voice out against him. Such a person really exists in our school.

And I am targeted by this kind of lousy person.

This school adopts the system of having the entire school in dormitories, and the school itself is situated in the mountains.

This is a closed village society, and the head of the village has his eyes on me.

That fellow is bullying me to increase the value in his life.

One of these days I will be bullied to death.

Since it will be so, I can only kill him before getting killed, isn't it? I held my breath and waited patiently.

I don't know if it was because I am suspicious, but the usual noisy cries of the birds, insects, there is none of it today. The forest was in a state of silence.

Soon, that fellow is coming soon.

I heard footsteps.

That is the sound of someone stepping on dead leaves, that is the sound of the footsteps of that fellow coming over.

I am very nervous, and lightly held down my trembling hand. My sweat rolled down my cheeks.

Though it is already at the end of September, but the mountain should not be this hot. I don't know if it is because I did some exercise just now, but I am sweating all over, and even now I am still sweating.

No, it should be because I am nervous.

But that also cannot be helped. Of course I am nervous, after all I am about to kill someone, and my hands and legs are all shaking. Once I think about it, I could not resist —— revealing a crafty smile.

I can kill that fellow. Just by thinking about that, I am happy enough to cry out.

Because that fellow——Suddenly, my body shook. I quickly placed my hands on the fallen leaves.

When I realized it, I began to worry if just now that sound has been heard by that fellow? No, this is——The tree I am leaning on is vibrating. Only seeing the tree branches, and leaves shaking.

It is an earthquake. And it is very big.

There was a shock wave that echoed from my belly area. That was the greatest shaking, but after that it stopped. (TL note: Don't ask me why there is a shock wave from his abdomen. I am guessing it cuz of the tree is vibrating and he is leaning on it.) The shaking stopped. It seems that no trees fell, nor will there be any mudslides. I breathed a sigh of relief.

The trap is fine too, that is great. But there is a problem.

「It's an earthquake!」

I heard that fellow's voice, and the sound of smacking lips. (TL note: smacking lips = sound of someone clicking his tongue, you know the one you go tsu!) It isn't good—— I couldn't help but think.

If that fellow changed his mind, then the things that I have prepared won't they——The sound of the footsteps indeed gradually went away.

The one who should smack the lips is me. I bit my lips, and clenched my fists.

No, it is not over yet.

That fellow maybe just worried that a landslide may happen or something.

Maybe he will be back in a while.

I silently prayed and waited patiently.

I don't know how many minutes have passed.

I felt that it has been a long time, but it is probably about only 10 mins or so.

The sounds of footsteps began to approach again.

That's great, I clenched my fist tightly, wanting to put out a victory pose.

That fellow came back. This time he should walk past here.

The footsteps got closer. What's going on? The sound of the footsteps seems to be heavier than before.

I think, that is probably me thinking too much. I shook my head, and focused.

I get this feeling that even the breathing of that fellow has become very loud. The [Fuuhi.Fuuhi] when exhaling is just like a pig.

What exactly is going on, is that fellow tired? What a useless guy. Seemingly so arrogant usually, but in the end he is only this much.

I smiled sinisterly. Just like this is good.

If he is already tired, then his attention is bound to become weaker.

His footsteps should also become messier.

Just watch.

And fall.

A shrill scream sounded.

I rushed out from behind the tree trunk, and carried the plastic containers while dashing towards the trap. Without even looking at the situation inside the trap, I poured the liquid in the containers in.

The gasoline flowed into the trap with a doshi doshi sound. It continues to flow, making someone feel that it is kind of exaggerated.

Next is the spark. I used the lighter to light a piece of confetti, and throw it into the trap.

The scream echoed in to the ears.

It is that last struggle of the guy, it makes one feel so smoothing.

I picked up the bamboo spear and stabbed it into the trap, giving that fellow the fatal blow.

The feel of the spear stabbing into the meat was transmitted through the palms. So a human's stomach is that soft, it is far beyond my imagination.

I closed my eyes, and desperately stabbed the bamboo spear continuously down.

Finally, the resistance stopped.

I timidly opened my eyes, and looked into the trap.

That fellow's corpse——Is not in the trap.

What replaced it, is a fat creature that is pig-like looking, and uses 2 legs to walk, covered with blood and dead inside.

That is a fat creature with reddish-brown skin.

And the blood that flowed out is blue. Only seeing him covered completely in blue colored blood.

「Ha?」

I could not help making a confused sound like a fool.

I let go of the bamboo spear in my hands.

At that moment the fat pig-human released another sound like a wheezing sound.

The pig-human body is gradually becoming fuzzy. No, it’s body is dissipating just like smoke.

I blinked.

Just as I was stunned at all these, the pig-human's body disappeared completely.

An opening trumpet music rang in my ears.

「You leveled up!」

I heard a neutral voice saying so, and my vision became all white.

Chapter 02: The White Room

Once I regain consciousness, I discovered that I am inside a white colored room.

The entire ceiling is glowing just like a fluorescent bulb. Or perhaps because of this, this place is as bright as day.

The size of the room is about the same as a classroom.

But, there is only a table and a chair.

There is a laptop on the table.

The table, chair, and laptop, that's all things that are in the room.

The laptop is open, and the screen showed something like Excel.

I timidly walked towards the table.

Looking at the computer screen.

Only seeing my name written on top of it, and below writing Level 1, and Skill Points 2. And further below is a table with simple words like sword, spear, magic.

I shake my head in suspicion. Is this some sort of prank? What exactly is going on? No, actually I did know what is this.

This is the ability table.

My ability table.

Just like a computer game, the screen shows my ability values.

But, what is written on it is not Strength, Intelligence, HP or MP.

From the table that is like game stats, I can see that, there are only levels and skills these 2 components.

This sort of game does exist in reality, and some of these games will even hide of the character's ability.

Then, this screen means that……I used my confused mind to think. On it was Level 1, Skill Points 2, does it means that I can get 2 kind of skills? Or it is that, the points needed for different skills are different……Alas, this sort of thing is not important. Or perhaps it is not completely unimportant, in short just keep it aside for now.

The most important thing is; what kind of situation am I currently in.

「Is there someone around!」

I shouted loudly.

「Is there anyone around! Please explain a bit, I hope that someone can come and explain what is this, and what is the situation now.」

I did not have any expectation, only saying for the sake of hoping that something will happen. If this world is kind enough that if you ask the other party to explain, the other party will explain in detail for us, then even I will be able to live better.

At least I will not be forced into planning to kill that fellow.

However, the master of this space, seems to be much kinder than the people in my world.

Only seeing a window popping out from the screen, with the following words on it.

「Please go ahead and ask the questions.」

Even the entering window also popped out, that's pretty sweet of him.

I shall omit the questioning and answering between me and the computer, because it is not only lengthy, it also contains a lot of useless parts.

I am continuously asking detailed questions that make people think that「Even this you have to ask?」, questions like from「Where is this place」,「Who are you」, until「What brand is this computer」,「What time is it now」are asked.

Most of the questions, only gotten the response of「unable to answer」.

That is also good, because no answer is also a very important information.

In conclusion, the currently known information are as follows: This is not a dream.

The truth is, whether if the person who said「I did not lie」really lied, only he himself will know. In other words, this could also be a dream, and it could also not be a dream.

Personally, I hope that this is just a dream.

In this room there is only me.

Also to say, this is a private room. Our dormitory is a 4 person room, hence I am quite happy.

I can always stay in this room, until I used the PC, and close the window for the acquiring of skills.

The moment I close that window, I will immediately return to where I originally was, which is in the forest. This technology is too powerful.

When I am in this room, the time outside in the world is still.

No matter how many years I stay in this place, the time outside will not even elapsed past 0.1 second. The performance of this room is better than ※Seishin to Toki no Heya. (TL note: Seishin to Toki no Heya = a room in Dragonball where time pass very slowly) This sort of technology is really amazing until it is shocking.

——Technology? No, Haha, hmmm——The condition to enter this room, that is a level up.

If I want to enter this room again, then I have to level up again. And to level up, then I need to defeat enemies, and accumulate experience points.

To be honest, I do not know what to say. In short, all of this is too cool.

Every time you level up you can get skill points.

And as long as you use those skill points then you can get skills. In principle, once you get the skill, then it is unable to be reverted back to skill points. This is kind of inconvenient.

The so call skill, is something similar to adding value to my current body.

It seems to be like that. So as to say, once I get the Sword Skill skill, I will become an expert with sword.

No, becoming an expert is a lie. Each Skill has its Skill Rank, and currently I am only rank 1, it can hardly be called an expert.

To increase the Skill Rank, of course there is the need to use skill points.

And to increase the skill rankl to 1, you need to use 1 skill point.

To increase the skill from rank 1 to rank 2, you need 2 points.

Likewise, when you need to raise from rank 2 to rank 3, you need 3 points.

It seems that the highest rank is rank 9. Supposing if one concentrates on the Sword Skill, then when that person reached level 23, then he can reach the Skill Rank 9.

After a person level up, other than skills, the person's physical and mental strength will also increase.

That is HP and MP. It is getting to be more and more like a game.

The Skill Rank is only giving extra value to the original body.

So as to say, if I am originally a sword master, then I might be able to defeat a person with Sword Skill Rank 9. But, I have only held the bamboo sword in gym classes.

Weapon Attack Skills have 6 types, which includes unarmed combat, sword skills, spear skills, pole skills, shooting and throwing.

As long as you have Sword Skill skill, then when you have a sword in your hand, your movements will become more agile. In addition, axe seems to be included inside Sword Skill skills. That also includes every weapon that can be used to cut.

Similarly, Spear Skill skill is for when you are armed with weapons like bamboo spears or weapons that can be stab, then it will display its effect. Then I asked, then what if I used a shovel to battle? The answer given was, if you use it as a sword, then you can activate the Sword Skill; if you use the flat part to bash, then you can activate the Pole Skill; if you sharpen the edges of the shovel, and use it to stab the enemy, then you can activate the Spear Skill. The shovel is indeed almighty.

Bows, slingshots, pistols, machine guns are all under Shooting Skills. As for throwing grenades, cola bottles, baseball, belonged to Throwing Skills. Then I asked, which type does kicking a soccer ball belongs? In the end I get the answer「no such Skill」.

I continued to ask, if throwing a long spear that can be used as a javelin, then which does it belong to? The other party replied「If such a situation is met, both Spear Skill and

Throwing Skill are OK」. It has such a subtle difference from the shovel. Saying so it seems that throwing a dagger or a short axe is also the same.

The creature I killed, was a monster known as an orc locally.

Locally refers to where? And also what are monsters~ damn.

The so-called magic, is a skill using something called Mana to conjure fire or wind.

What is that, and there is mana. Is this a fantasy world? Hmm, actually it is a fantasy world. That's right. It is too crazy.

Magic Skills are separated into 7 types, which are Earth, Water, Fire and Wind, these 4 attributes, and adding Support Magic and Summon Magic, and also Healing Magic.

It seems that according to differences in Skills, there are different magic prepared. Each Skill Rank are accompanied with 4 types of magic, and once you rank up you will be able to use it automatically.

Other than that, there are also other Skills available —— Physical, Movement, Detection, Music.

Physical Skill is like a muscle enhancer, to let people lift heavy objects easily. Or perhaps even swing the sword that is higher than one's height.

Movement Skills can let one's movement become more agile, and jump higher. Though the strides won't change to very fast, but the instantaneous push off seems to be increased.

Detection Skill is a Skill that enables one to conduct convert actions, distinguish faraway voices, and see things faraway etc. etc. In other words, it includes all the abilities needed by a special forces member.

Music Skill seems to enhance the music sense and voice. If using singing can let Giants follow my orders, then perhaps I will consider it, but it seems to not have that effect. Actually I also don't really understand.

Every question related to「Who prepared all these stuff」, all of them are unanswered.

This is simply crazy to the maximum.

As for questions like「Why I can get such things like Level and Skills」, the answer gotten was that I will need it in the future.

Is it~ So it is like this. Don't tell me you want me to be a Hero? I do not want to.

This seem to be not a dream, but reality.

The feeling is the worst.

If I died, there is no way to resurrect.

It is really very bad.

As to why I need to get Skills, what「future」refers to, and disturbing words like Mana and Monsters. I temporarily set them aside.

After all, there is insufficient information. Although there are many things that can be investigated, but even if I do so now it will not help much.

The most important thing now, is that I can get Skills.

Other than that, if I miss this opportunity, then I will need to wait until next level up before I can get Skills again.

And to level up, I have to defeat the monsters called Half-Beast man.

In a state where I do not have skills, I cannot defeat them.

Hence I decide to sort out the information on Skills first.

Now, the computer screen is displaying all the skills: Physics： Unarmed Combat, Sword Skill, Spear Skill, Pole Skill, Shooting, Throwing.

Magic：Earth Magic, Water Magic, Fire Magic, Wind Magic, Support Magic, Summon Magic, Healing Magic.

Others：Physical, Movement, Detection, Music.

I need to choose 1 or 2 out for these 17 kinds of skills, and raise it to Rank 1. Also there is no need to use all the Skill Points at one go.

After some thoughts, I asked a few more questions.

And then I struggled in the mind to think again.

I did not know how many hours passed after I came to this room. But I am not hungry, nor thirsty. Or perhaps this room is like this. Who knows.

After setting my determination, I stood in front of the laptop.

From the Skill Table I chose 2 Skills, and raised them to Rank 1.

Kazuhisa: Level 1 Support Magic 0 → 1 ／Summon Magic 0 → 1　Skill Points 2 → 0

After I moved the cursor to「Confirm」, and press the confirmation button.

In the next moment, I returned back to the forest.

Chapter 03: Support Magic and Summon Magic

I am standing in front of the trap in the forest.

What happened just now, is just like a dream.

But in front of me there is indeed a trap, and the hole has the scent of burnt meat.

Ah, I guess that I wouldn't want to eat meat for a while.

Thought the orc's figure has already disappeared, but the end of the bamboo spear is still stained with blue colored blood. That indeed is real.

Orc. It is a monster with a face like a pig. That sort of thing really existed, and I still…… killed it.

That also doesn't matter. Yup, I just going to take it that it's fine. I am much calmer than I had expected.

After all I had intended to kill humans.

Even if the one that I killed was an ugly monster from a fantasy RPG, it is still not much of a big problem.

The problems lie not with this, but on whether if there is only 1 of this orc.

The answer is most likely no. When asking in the white room, it has actually been hinted at.

At the question「Why do I need Skills」which I asked, the computer had answered:「

Because the future you will have a need for it.」The situation that I will be in midst of in the future, will cause me to need the thing called Skills—— that is what that someone in that room said.

In that case…… I clutched my fist tightly.

That's right, first is to get those skills —— the special power that was bestowed upon me, the power that will definitely be able to protect me.

I tried to use the skills.

Starting the support magic first.

According to the answer by the other party, at every skill rank, you can use 4 types of magic.

When using magic, you must consume MP.

Roughly after using magic for about 10 times, the MP will be fully depleted. And the method to recover MP, is to stay at the same spot and not move. It said that roughly for 10minutes, then you can recover enough MP for 1 usage of magic.

Let's try—— I murmured to myself while looking at my right hand.

「《Mighty Arm》」When using magic, you have to concentrate your attention.

When asking, the other party kindly suggested to me, that I can set a keyword, and read it out. So that's it, after I followed the suggestion, then I have a feeling that my whole body has lost some strength, and then my right hand began to give off a delicate light.

I used my glowing right hand to pick up the shovel.

It is lighter than earlier; the shovel has becoming significantly lighter.

No, that is not right, it should be that my arm power became stronger. This is the effect of magic.

For testing purposes, I clenched my fist and punched the trunk nearby.

Ouch. The tree did not move, while there is a bit of a bruise on my hand.

And then blood oozed out from the wound, red blood. The color of the blood is different from the orc. The pain brought me to tears.

「Well, forget it.」

I said softly with regret, while shaking my head at the same time. Anyway, I have confirmed that things like magic does indeed exist.

Actually when I saw the orc and the room, I have already begun to believe a little that this is a supernatural phenomenon. No, it should not be just「a little」. It is that I completely believe. This world..... And I.....I shrugged my shoulders.

Forget it, let's try summon magic next.

「《Summon Raven》.」(TL note: This MC needs to know his birds. He called for a raven but a crow(karasu) comes out...) The space in front of me began to distort into a black mass, and 1 crow appeared from the distorted space, and stopped at the branch beside me, giving a Ka—— cry.

「《 Search for Enemy》.」I said so, at the same time while pointing to the direction to search.

The crow gave another Ka —— cry, and flew up, disappearing from my sight quickly.

After a few minutes, it came back.

The cry of the crow, sounds like saying to me:「There is a monster on the road, prowling around.」

「Are you the one who spoke just now?」

The crow cries out again, but this time it seems like a normal call from a crow.

I have to confirm if I am hallucinating.

I carefully walked to where the road is, while trying to avoid stepping on the fallen leaves.

The short 5 minute journey, seems very long.

I came to the area nearby the road, this is a tar road that runs through the forest.

The width of the road can only allow about 2 light trucks to pass, and the roadside is covered with fallen leaves.

There is a creature walking on 2 legs on the road.

It has a pig face and a human body, and it is completely naked. The skill tone is reddish brown, with a protruding tummy, and it smells.

It's an orc.

The orc is holding a rusty sword in it's hands. That's right, a sword. Will the orc from before perhaps also hold a sword? I do not know. After all, when I saw it, the orc is almost about to disappear. I will go and check in the trap later—— I thought so in this way.

Okay, back to the orc in front of me. Though I did not look carefully before, but this fellow's figure is much bigger than me. It's body is full of strong muscles, and its arms and legs are very thick, seemingly like a certain athlete who does hammer throw.

But an athlete who does hammer throw, is a human who wants to obtain a gold medal in Olympics, while the orc in front of me, seems to have a similar build as the one I saw before.

In other words, the human Olympic athlete is equivalent to a standard orc.

That is pretty scary. If I had a hand to hand combat with that fellow, it wouldn't be surprising for me to get killed.

But, if I don't kill that fellow then I cannot level up, and hence will never be able to return to that white room.

Now thinking back, the person at the other end of the computer is actually very friendly, no matter what questions I asked, he replied very patiently. Of course, the other party also have a lot of things that he cannot tell me. Even so, from the process of constantly asking, I still got a lot of information.

After using magic, the questions I wanted to ask have become way too many.

Hence I have to go back to that room again.

For the sake of returning to that room, I have to level up.

And to level up, I have to defeat that orc. So the important thing now, is to kill that orc in front of me.

「I want to kill you.」

I murmured softly, clenching my fist tightly, and then focused my attention on my legs.

「《Physical Up》.」

My feet began to give off a delicate light.

This is the magic to strengthen the body, specially used to strengthen the foot.

Just at the instant when the orc turned to face me, I made up my mind, and dash onto the road.

We are about 20 meters apart. The monster with the pig nose looked at me, and give out a Fumo—— cry.

It raised its rusty sword high up, and rushed towards me.

The other party intends to kill me. Even if I was grazed, it will definitely be very painful. Hence I must not allow it to happen.

I immediately turned and dashed into the forest that I jumped out from.

The orc indeed cried Fumo——, while chasing after me.

I did not look back, only concentrating on running, at the same time smirking in satisfaction.

Fumo—— sound became very distant.

Huh? Oh right, I used magic to strengthen my legs.

That's why I can escape from the orc. It was because of this, that is why I got the Support Magic Skill. Because the top priority is to think of ways to survive, hence I completely ignored the Skills relating to weapons, and chose support magic.

Having said that, did I put too much of a distance between us? I looked back, and saw a reddish brown skin thing rushing through the woods, roughly about 15 meters away.

「I am here, you stupid pig!」

I shouted, and slowed down at the same time.

The orc seems to have discovered me again, and I saw it suddenly rushing towards me.

I quickly ran away.

The chasing game quickly ended. I light jumped, and crossed the trap covered with grass.

As for the orc, it unhesitatingly fell into trap.

That is a very deep hole.

I had set a total of 3 traps, and one of them is already unable to be used due to the battle before, but there are still 2 more. Because I had thought of all the routes that fellow could have taken.

But now, that fellow is already irrelevant, and simply does not deserved any attention.

But, these traps have other uses. For the killing of the orcs, and to let me go into that room again, hence these traps are essential.

No, conversely, it is because of these traps, that is why I chose those 2 skills.

I used summon magic to call out the crow, and send it for reconnaissance from the air.

And then use support magic to strengthened my legs, and taking control of the game of catch.

Lastly is to let the orc fall into the trap.

Until now, it has indeed gone pretty smoothly.

I looked at the orc in the hole, and confirm that this pig-human has indeed been injured by the bamboo spears.

The orc is constantly bleeding blue blood, staring at me angrily. It is frantically swinging that rusty sword in the hole.

But that sword cannot cut me.

Just like just now, first I poured the gasoline into hole, then throw in the kindle.

This orc's body is engulfed by the flames, struggling vigorously.

Next is the final blow. I took the bamboo spear.

The effect of the magic《Mighty Arm》is still effective, and hence I used my strengthened arm to stab the spear into the hole. The feeling of the sharp edge of the spear piercing through the meat, caused me to frown.

Even so, I still continued to stab.

Finally, the groans of the orc stopped.

I looked into the trap, and saw the orc's body gradually becoming transparent just like before.

I killed the orc, the 2nd orc.

The orc's body completely disappeared.

Just that.

Nothing else happened, and I was not delivered to the white room.

「Well, this is also expected.」

I muttered to myself breathlessly.

That's right, if this is a video game, then from the experience needed to raise from level 0 to level 1, is definitely different from the experience need from level 1 to level 2.

At least 2 times more —— I thought so in my heart.

Or even worse, maybe it needs 3 times, or even 4 times.

Anyway, there is still 1 trap left; if there is the need, then I can use back the traps that were used. After the orc disappeared, there is a red gemstone that is about the size of a small fingernail left in the trap.

What is that? Is it the treasure that drops after defeating the enemy just like in a game? Why do I feel that it is becoming more and more like a RPG in the computer?

I climbed down into the trap, and put up that red gem.

Ruby? Well, I don't exactly know how to differentiate between gemstones.

I decided to keep the gem in my pocket first. Next is to return to the trap that killed the first orc and check it, or perhaps I missed it, there is indeed a similar gem inside there. I also picked up that gem.

Then, I sent the crow out to search again.

The crow I summoned is still around. Next time when I go into the white room, I have to ask how long the summoned crow can last.

Finally, the crow returned.

「There is 1 monster chasing a human.」

That is what the crow said.

Chapter 04: The Orc and The Girl

After a few minutes.

I hid behind a shady tree, around 10 steps away from the orc and the human figure to observe them.

When I arrived here, the magic《Mighty Arm》has already lost its effect.

But《Physical Up》is still usable.

The duration of the magic, is roughly about 20 - 30 minutes.

Later when I am visiting the white room, I should ask about this.

The person who is pinned under the orc, is a girl.

The girl is wearing the uniform of the Middle School section, with a long black hair that reaches the waist.

The orc is breathing heavily in its preparation of its violence of the girl.

Now what? Why did this guy try to open the girl's legs? Why did this guy throw its weapon aside? Why did this guy face its butt towards me without any preparation, while thinking of raping that girl? It is completely unsuspecting of its surroundings.

This is a good chance—— I thought to myself. The girl is crying loudly, and as long as I crept closer quietly, then the orc should not be able to discover me. Then I will just use her as bait.

One of these days, I will have to kill these monsters without the use of traps. Now with this situation in front of me, isn't it the best chance for me to take the first step? I calmed down and took a deep breath, and then casted magic on the bamboo spear.

「《Keen Weapon》.」

The bamboo spear began to glow slightly, and the tip became harder, its piercing power should have also risen.

「《Mighty Arm》,《Physical Up》.」

My arms and legs began to glow. Though the effect of《Physical Up》has not disappeared, but to be on the safe side, I still cast it again.

In this way, both my arms and legs are in the strengthened state. If any emergency happens, I just have to leave this girl and escape by myself.

After using so many magic, it caused me to feel a bit dizzy. I hope the next level up will increase the MP.

Nevertheless, all my magic must be cast before the battle.

I judged that I can still handle it, and hence I called the crow that I summoned with summon magic.

「《Mighty Arm》, 《Physical Up》, 《Keen Weapon》.」

I used magic to strengthen the crow's ability. Support magic can be used on the others. It should be said that support magic is to be used on other, supporting them.

I used 《Keen Weapon》 on the crow's beak. With this, it should be able to act as the role of diversion against the orc.

I hope it can achieve its role. Please, please protect me. I am really afraid by myself.

The things that can be done are done.

Okay, preparation ready.

I held the bamboo spear, and slowly, silently walked closer to behind the orc who is pinning the girl beneath it.

The orc took off it loincloth, revealing its ugly butt.

I once heard from a great man that, humans are the most unguarded when they are excreting.

Thinking about it carefully, ejaculating is also a form of discharging. The posture now, is indeed completely unguarded.

Where should I stab? After thinking, I decide to aim at the neck.

If I missed, the stab may hurt the girl, but even if so, I will think about it when the time comes. After all, this girl is nobody to me.

I ordered the crow that once the battle start, to steal away the sword that the orc threw aside, and ran away.

Thus, even if the surprise attack fail, the opponent can only fight with me bare handed.

I walked step by step closer to the orc's back.

Almost there. I swallowed my saliva……My eyes met with the eyes of the girl who is pinned under.

Not good.

I began to have cold sweat. If she did any kind of suspicious actions now, then the orc may discover my existence.

I felt very angry, I am about to save you now. But of course those are just words, because up to just now, I had only thoughts of using the girl as bait.

I will be betrayed by her.

I am thinking of this by reflex.

It is the same as that time. That is why I was targeted by that fellow.

There is someone who is bullied in my class, and because I wanted to help him, and hence I made that guy unhappy.

In the end the target for bullying changed from that student to me, and even that student who was being bullied initially, also joined in the act of bullying me.

I can never forget, that student who was originally being bullied, giving a cruel smile on his face when he was looking at me lying on the floor.

I will also never forget, when he used the wet cloth for cleaning toilets to wipe my face, those eyes were full of joy.

My actions have been betrayed by him who did it in the worst form.

I wanted to seek justice, and the ending was this. I wanted to help him, and the ending was this. I believed everyone in the world has a kind heart, but the ending was this.

So I will never trust anyone again.

I created a plan to kill that fellow alone, and I also prepared everything alone.

Luckily I did not have any friends, and no one to pay attention to me, hence I could take this action easily.

From the past until now, all I need is myself; it will be so in the future too.

That's right, I only need myself. Even if the girl in front of me betrays me, that doesn't matter too.

I will kill this orc, and gain the experience. That's all.

There is still a few steps to the orc, and now in a swoop……In the moment just as I was determined to take the step——「No! Stop, go away!」 The girl began to cry loudly.

Her behavior, is as though she was trying to attract the orc's attention.

The girl used her hands to hammer at the orc's muscular chest, while the orc looked down at the girl impatiently, and lightly slapped her.

The girl's lip tore, spitting out a bit of blood.

Even so, she continued to resist. The orc seemed unhappier. And that was enough.

I gave a yell, and attacked the orc.

I used all my strength and stabbed the spear into the orc's thick neck.

Blue colored blood splashed everywhere. The orc gave a shriek, and turned around.

It has great strength, but how can I just let go. I grabbed the bamboo spear with my hands tightly, and stabbed harder.

The orc left the girl and fell down at the side. The bamboo spear stabbed inside his throat, also bounced out of my hands.

The orc violently pulled the bamboo spear out, and threw it aside, and look around, searching for its rusty sword.

But it cannot find it.

That is of course. Because that sword……Is taken by the crow in its mouth, and delivered to my side. (TL note: this crow doesn't know how to use its claws?) Perhaps it is because of being strengthened by magic, even holding the sword bigger than itself, the crow can still fly normally.

Good. I held the orc's sword, and prepared for battle.

I ordered the crow to attack the orc's eyes.

After the crow who is loyal to me gave a cry, it flew towards the orc.

The orc tried to use its hands to chase the crow away.

But, the crow I summoned persisted in attacking the orc's face.

I gave a shout, and rushed towards the orc.

I held the sword and slashed at its body, large amount of blue blood sprayed out, and the orc staggered backwards.

I took another step forward, and swung the sword.

But the orc used its hands to block my attack. A huge impact caused my arms to go numb.

The sword in my hand flew away, landing in the woods.

Just as I was thinking「Shit!」, the orc came towards me.

I quickly distanced myself. Because of the effect of magic, my body is very light, and I was able to put some distance between us in a moment.

But, with this, I also lost my element of surprise.

The more important problem is that, my hands and legs are shaking.

Afraid? Of course I am afraid! I am super scared! I wished to turn tail and run away immediately! My teeth gave the sound of kachi kachi, and my breath became very rushed. I seemed to pant more exaggeratedly than the orc's nasal breath.

Clearly I did not have any injury, but I don't know why I am actually more tired.

But the orc is also staggering.

It seems that the stab in its neck is very effective.

This should be a fatal wound for humans, but this fellow seems to be surprisingly robust. Ah, after all its whole body is made of muscles……Having said that, the sword indeed did not work.

I suddenly discovered that the bamboo spear is still beside the orc. That bamboo spear has obviously injured the orc until like that, but in the orc's recognition, it seems to not treat it as a weapon.

This fellow is a simple unicellular organism.

But its simple mind, is a favorable element to me.

Let me make good use of it. I ordered the crow to fly beside the orc's face.

This is a check. As I expected, the orc is thrown into confusion by the attack from the crow.

I took the chance to rush to the bamboo spear, and quickly picked it up.

No, this is a lie. More accurately, I ran to the spear unsteadily, and because my hands are shaking incessantly, hence after picking up the bamboo spear I dropped it twice, until the 3rd time then I managed to grab the anti-slip cloth I had on it.

At this moment, the orc's eyes are pecked out by the crow, and it gave a wail……I held the bamboo spear, while giving a yell, and dashed towards it.

The orc used both hands to cover its face, and hence my bamboo spear stabbed straight into its defenseless body.

Blue colored blood spilled out.

Then its a scream.

I continued to use the bamboo spear to pierce the orc that is resisting weakly.

The orc fell, and twisted its body. I kept stabbing it, until its body became transparent, and slowly disappeared. An opening trumpet music rang in my ears.

「You leveled up!」

I heard that neutral voice again, and then my vision became all white.

When I came to my senses, I am already again in the white room.

Chapter 05: Just what to level up

I am in the white colored room, with a blur face.

I have fought desperately. That was an intense battle that was different from the previous 2 battles.

Until now then I realized that, that is a life and death struggle.

I only understood it now.

My hands and legs begin to tremble again. I squatted on the floor, adjusting my breathing.

Okay. I stood up. As long as I am in this room, I have unlimited time to use. In that case, I have to make good use of this advantage until the limit.

That's right, I have a lot of things to think about.

There is also a lot of things that I need to know.

First, I can confirm 1 thing.

That is, I do not have any ways of using a sword to fight.

It is too scary. During the battle because I am too into it and was unable to think clearly, but even now, I still cannot help but shiver in fear. I am such a timid person.

The orc's power is very strong. The other party is obviously unarmed, and I am holding a weapon, but I completely did not feel that the situation is to my advantage. The orc's physique is just too strong.

But that is definitely because my strength is too weak, and unable to penetrate through the orc's thick fats, and give it the fatal wounds.

In the previous 2 battles which uses the traps, I have already discovered the reason why I can win, it is because I am using ambushes, stealing their weapons, using summon magic to disturb them, and even using support magic to increase my basic abilities.

If I am missing any one of them, then the me of now would probably be a corpse on the ground.

I am not suited for physical fights, and the extent can be fatal.

I have always vaguely felt it, even while practicing Kendo or Judo in the gym classes, after a short while I will be overwhelmed by the opponent's pressure. Even if I was resolved to face the other party, my actions will also become very simple and direct, and immediately it will be dodged by the other party.

But, when watching a match like the others, I will still say irresponsible comments like「Do it that way」,「Do it this way」.....I am completely not suitable for that kind of activity.

But, knowing what I am not suitable for, is also a good thing. Hence, I will not need to waste any points on weapon skills. Skill points are very precious, even 1 point cannot be wasted.

I need to think about what to do next.

I need to think of a way to defeat orcs which does not rely on close-combat. The most ideal method, is to use summon magic to call out something other than crows……The crows from Skill Level 1 may have the effect of restraining, but they are unable to act as shields, to ward off the enemy's attacks.

I sat before the laptop, and entered the question: What can I summon with Summon Magic at Skill Level 2?「Puppet Golem.」Oh! In my heart, I was suddenly filled with anticipation.

Targeting this, I asked a few more questions, and finally obtained the following information: -Puppet Golem is a wooden man familiar, and it is armed with a pole. Its height is roughly around 150cm. The combined strength of 2 Puppet Golems, is equivalent roughly to 1 orc.

This is after I asked a series of questions, one of the things that I managed to understand.

So, the things that are summoned with Summon Magic are called「familiars」. I should have confirmed this earlier.

Saying about matter that should have been confirmed earlier, actually there are still a lot of them -Regarding the duration of magic, if it is the Support Magic Skill Level 1, it can roughly stay active for 25 minutes plus/minus 5 minutes.

So it is just a rough estimate, it seems that for safety, I should recast the magic every 20 minutes.

No, wait a minute. If a person's level or skill level increases, then what will happen? I entered the question again.

And hence understood the following: -The increase in a person's level has nothing to do with the duration of magic.

Only when the specific Magic Skill Level increase, then the duration will also increase.

If《Mighty Arm》,《Physical Up》and《Keen Weapon》level is raised to Skill Level 2, then the magic duration will change to 50 minutes plus/minus 10 minutes.

I see, as long as I increase the Support Magic Skill Rank, the duration will increase to 40 minutes to 1 hour. This will be very important with regards to reducing MP consumption.

Next, I said some questions regarding familiars -Familiar Summon Magic and other Magic is different, the required consumption of MP by Skill Rank, so as to say, when Skill Rank is 2, the MP consumed is 4; when Skill Rank is 3, the MP consumed is 9; when Skill Rank is 4, the MP consumed is 16.

In principle, the familiars will always obey the master's orders, until the summoner returns it, or disappear because it is defeated. In this period, the maximum value of MP will maintain at the state after the deduction of MP. There is no limit to the amount of familiar summoned at each summon, but the decrease of the maximum of MP will accumulate.

This matter is very important. So I can call out 2 crows at a time! But I am not going to do so.

No matter how many crows there are, they are after all just a flock of the same feathers.

Because they are crows, hence they are of the same feathers. That's good. This saying is very good.

……kohon. (TL note: the above crows thingy is something like a lame joke by the MC. tried to make it in English. but not very well done I guess. Kohon = sound of like being empty since he is alone) But, to be able to call out 2 Puppet Golem is pretty attractive. Although the MP consumed for Rank 2 of Summon Magic is 4 times that of the crows, but if I cast《Keen Weapon》,《Physical Up》and《Mighty Arm》before sending them to fight with the orcs, then if it's only facing 1 orc, then there should be a chance for success.

No, this way of fighting seems to be too harsh……To raise my Level from 1 to 2, I killed 2 orcs. Next, to level up the amount of monsters that I have to kill, will definitely increase.

But, the Skill Point gotten for every level up will remain as 2, and to rank up the skills, I have to consume the same amount of points as the next rank.

My combat ability will reach a bottleneck sooner or later.

Then what about the enemy? Is there only orcs? No definitely now, at least there will be a monster like leader of the orcs or something. Perhaps there maybe monsters which are much worse. No, I believe there is.

Like dragon.

When facing a dragon, should I use Puppet Golem as a shield and fight? Although I don't know what kind of existence is a dragon, but I will just assume it is a Tyrannosaurus.

I tried to imagine.

A wooden doll against a Tyrannosaurus.

In my imagination, the Puppet Golem is crushed in an instant.

Not possible. Definitely impossible. I feel that even with Support Magic, it will still fail badly. I completely cannot imagine any chance of winning.

But one thing is for sure.

Even if I have Skill Rank 3 or 4 of Summon Magic, when having a close combat, I will definitely lose to those with a similar ranked Sword Skill or Spear Skill opponent.

In other words, the most ideal vanguard, is a person who have such a sword or spear skill.

That's right, its humans.

「Shouldn't I find a companion?」I mumbled to myself.

Believe in others, and get companions? I shook my head, thinking what kind of foolish thing I am saying.

Then, I am suddenly reminded of what happened just now. From the results, I have saved that girl from the middle school section.

When she discovered that I am planning on defeating the orc, and even though she was slapped, she continued to help me divert the orc's attention. Thanks to her, I managed do the surprise attack at the best timing.

If not for that, then what will be the outcome of that battle? Perhaps I will lose. If I am unlucky, I may not even have the chance to escape, and be killed just like that.

Thinking of that, I can't help but think that isn't it too early for me to challenge the orc……Ah, forget it. The most important thing now is that girl. Although it is only once, but she trusted me. She believes I will save her, and fought hard in her own way.

Could she become my partner?「Then you will be betrayed again?」I murmured on.

Perhaps so. But, maybe it will not be.

First, I have to think about the power I get from this room, and the structure.

The condition to come to this room is to level up.

The first time I came to this room, I killed an orc.

That was under many coincidences of good luck, and hence I got the victory.

As in, from my perspective, I had intended to kill the despicable fellow who has been constantly bullying me, but I didn't expect the one I killed to be a pig-human who has blue blood. I was very shocked at that time; it was impossible to put into words.

……No, this is not important. I shall put it aside first…

The problem now is, to kill 1 orc, it is an extremely hard task. Other than me, how many others are lucky enough to do so? Until now, I have met with 3 orcs in a short period of time.

So as to say, there should be a considerable amount of orcs in this mountain.

Among those orcs, how many will break into the school? The students and teachers in the school, how are they now?「Well, most people would not be able to win.」Perhaps those students in the Kendo Club who practiced Kendo, can work together to kill 1 or 2 orcs. But it maybe a bit difficult for students who practice Judo. If the students from the Baseball Club used bats to fight. Perhaps it will be of use……? The students in the Soccer Club…… Probably only in the world of manga, then they can depend on kicking soccer balls to defeat the enemies. As for Archery Club, our school do not have them.

The students in the school Middle and High School section, have a total of about 2000 people.

In addition, there are the staff and operators of the school, there are about 200 adults.

「If they are lucky, then about 10 to 20 people will be able to survive?」From the most optimistic viewpoint, the number of people who can raise his level to 1 just based on his own power, will probably be around that much.

But, if I assist that girl in this place? I still got a completely perfect trap. I can lend her the bamboo spear, and use support magic to increase her ability, and call her to stab the orc in the trap to death. As long as she obediently follows my instructions, then she should be able to visit the white room successfully.

She can acquire skills in the white room. Yes, since there is a bamboo spear, then I should get her to acquire Spear Skill.

As for the other skill, Healing Magic seems good. In a game, recovering physical strength is important; and in reality it is even more important. Her lips are broken, and her knees also have abrasions. If those wounds can be healed, then that will be good.

But there are other problems. There are many problems.

The first problem, is that I am letting a girl who is younger than me to hold a weapon and fight, while I am in the rear. More importantly, I don't know if she will listen to my words obediently, and if she will trust me.

The moment when she acquires skills, will she kill me—— there is also this risk.

Even if not, once she gets the weapon, will she be arrogant, and command me in return? Or maybe she wouldn't listen to my instructions, and act alone.

No, there is the possibility that she will acquire other skills from the beginning, and let my plan completely fail……A large number of negative thoughts surfaced in my mind.

I carefully pondered the risks and rewards of these possibilities may bring.

The first point to consider, is that this girl has a very calm personality.

So how I know this? And how calm is she? When this girl is almost raped, she is still willing to trust me, and assist me.

This sort of person under such circumstances —— although I don't know why, but in such a situation whereby there are monsters like orcs roaming about, will there be a possibility for her to take hostile actions against me? No, if she is such a superficial and short-sighted person, just now when her eyes met with mine, she should have already betrayed me.

……Superficial huh? In that sort of situation, I believe most people would scream for help. If it was me, I would not deliberately shout. Though this is not something good to talk about, but I am really a cowardly person. So as to say, her brain is more flexible than most people.

Is there a possibility that she is smarter than me, and hence command me in return? Well for this, if her orders are correct, then that is fine. In fact, I don't really reject being ordered, but I just hate situations whereby I have to obey irrational orders.

Actually in such an emergency, the age of the other person is not a problem. As long as she can make a more correct judgment than me, then I will also be happy to obey her orders.

Can she trust me? Just now, she has already acted as a bait for me. Does that prove that she believes in me? No, that should be just a wishful thinking on my side.

That moment, it can be said that we are just mutually using each other, so as to break status quo.

It might not be the same in the future, or perhaps she does not need my help at all.

Or perhaps she just wanted to make full use of me.

To make use of the other party—— Although it is annoying, but there are such people. The me in the past has also been subjected to such a treatment, and hence I am very sure, that once they found themselves in danger, everyone in the world would easily leave other people in the lurch.

Wait a minute. So, what if we can maintain in a situation whereby we can mutual use and benefit from each other? If such a situation persists, then what will happen? Hmm, I should think in this direction.

I have to let the girl know, what kind of benefits she would have if she cooperates with me.

The other possibilities include: She does not want to be a vanguard, or she cannot kill creatures that look similar to human, even if its an orc.

Regarding this point, even if I rack my brain out it will be useless.

If it really becomes like this, then I can only revert to my original plan, and fight alone.

Yes, plan. I have a long term plan.

But I have to grasp the situation first, then lay the foundation for future actions.

It is just that right now there is no need for such preparations. The most pressing thing, is to make the greatest effort, so that I can survive.

「……In short, let's talk to her first.」

I felt that, how could I, to a girl who was almost raped by monsters, proposed such an exchange……But its just the opposite, actually now is the best timing. Regardless to her or to me, this is the only chance. So I have lend my hand out to her first.

Luckily, lending a helping hand to her will not bring any negative impact to me.

Now I just have to do my best.

If I am too timid, even if I could have won, I will lose.

In fact, actually I could only suffer the bullying every day.

If I didn't even dig a trap……Yes, that perhaps maybe a dying struggle, but even so, if I did not do anything……Then there would not be such a situation now.

In that case, the top priority is to take action. For the sake of my goal……I begin to type at the keyboard, asking questions.

After a series of asking, I learn of a new and important information.

That is the system of「Party」.

「……It is getting more and more like a RPG.」

So far, the party system is the element that is closest to RPG.

The leader of the party just have to make physical contact with the person that he wants to party with, and think of「Form Party」in his heart, then the party will be formed.

When leaving the party, it seems that as long as you have the idea then you can leave. The leader can kick any member out of the party.

A party can at most have 6 people inside.

This is like the world's first RPG on the computer.

Only people who are level 1 and above, can form a party.

So as to say, everyone must kill at least 1 orc to form a party.

……That is very difficult.

People in the same party, will be able to get the evenly distributed experience.

And it is strictly distributed evenly. There is no extra experience like MMORPG.

Some magic can only be used on party members.

Some magic's effect is across the entire party, and there also seems to be some skills, that can only be used on party members. I am not too sure. Maybe I have to wait until everything is over then I will confirm it one by one.

People who are too far away from the party, are unable to get the experience.

This sort of situation seems to be treated as not joining the party. As for the distance, there isn't an exact answer given, but it seems that it does not matter as long as you are within 100 meters.

I see, this system is very important.

Just now I had intended to use that girl as a shield, and then use the Puppet Golem to defeat the monster, and gain the experience……If this is so, then all I need is for her to defeat the monster alone.

Of course, I will use magic to support her. As long as she has my support magic, she should be able to fight with an orc in a very safe condition. I can also use Summon Magic to restrain the enemy. Then, even without traps, we should be able to fight easily with the orcs.

Of course, all of this is under the premise that she agrees with my proposal……「Should I trust in others once again?」I look at the white ceiling, and remembered her eyes.

I imagined the instant when our eyes met in my mind. Just like an obsidian, her clear eyes seems to suck people into them.

If you disregard logical judgment, and just based on purely feelings……The weird thing is, I completely do not think that she may betray me.

「Let me believe in her first.」

I mumbled to myself.

Clenching my fist, I nodded.

Okay, I have decided. I turned to the keyboard, and use the 2 newly acquired Skill Points, and raised my Skills.

To raise a Skill from Rank 1 to Rank 2, I have to use 2 Skill Points.

In other words, I have to use all the points I have gotten.

Kazuhisa: Level 2 Support Magic 1→2／Summon Magic 1 Skill Point 2→0After I moved the cursor to「Confirm」, and press the confirmation button.

In an instant, I returned to the forest, back to near that girl.

Chapter 06: The Girl's Choice

Thinking back, the me of that time, perhaps just wanted something certain.

Perhaps, I only wanted to believe in something.

Believe in something, or someone.

No matter what it is, who it is, all of that are irrelevant. And she was there, just happen to appear there.

I spent a long time thinking in the white room, but the time spent in that room, is only an instant in reality.

The instant I returned to the forest, I could not help but kneed from being assaulted by a sense of severe fatigue.

I panted, and groaned. For the sake of adjusting my breathing, I place my hands on the ground that was covered by fallen leaves.

The thick smell of the forest entered my nose —— it is a smell similar to that of fallen rotting leaves that are wettened by the rain and mixed with insect and bird poo... Smelling this sort of unique odor, my emotions gradually calmed down.

Sounds of footsteps can be heard on the carpet-like fallen leaves, approaching me.

I raised my head and notice that the girl whom I saved from the orc, is standing beside me.

Her uniform is in tatters and what she is wearing now is the summer uniform, hence her shirt should be short sleeves. But her right sleeve has been completely torn off, revealing her fair-skinned shoulder. There is also a big hole in her chest area, revealing her breasts in her bra. She tried to used her hands to cover but it does not seem to work.

Though she is quite petite in size, but she is quite big—— I thought so in my heart (TL note: hahaha I think you get what the author is writing about. Refer to colored illustrations if you don't) Her skirt has also been torn into half, revealing her white panties. There are also multiple bruises on her body, and she is bleeding from the scratches on her hands and legs.

But the girl just silently looked at me with her obsidian-like eyes.

Her pupils are extremely clear, making it look very big. It must be because she did not avert her eyes away from my body.

Although she has suffered such serious injuries and her looks are quite ragged, but I don't know why, I just felt that this girl is very beautiful.

Her fringe on her forehead is very messy, and her black hair that reached her waist have many fallen leaves and branches in it. Even so, I could not help but marvel at that lusty beautiful hair.

「You.....」

The sound that I gave out, was nothing but self-mumbling. It was only something that I accidentally spoke. Because I have already been completely overwhelmed by her aura and do not know what to say.

But the girl seems to have understood the meaning of that word.

「I am Shimozono Arisu from the Middle School Section Year 3 Class 3.」

「Shimozono Arisu ……」

The girl told me that her name is「Shimozono Arisu」.

The other party have already self-introduced, then I guess I should also self-introduce as a form of courtesy.

「I am Kaya Kazuhisa from High School Section Year 1 Class 2.」

「Kaya……senpai.」

Arisu lightly bow to me. The leaf struck in her head also shook, like the ahoge frequently shown in the manga.

Although we are in such a situation, but I can't help that feel that the scene is kind of comical.

I couldn't help but laugh.

「Thank you for saving me…… What is wrong?」

Arisu raised her head and puffed her cheeks.

「What are you laughing about?」

I quickly explained that there is a leaf on her head.

And apologized for my lack of consideration.

Arisu gave out a「mu——」sound, making her mouth into a ∧ shape. She used one of her hands to cover her chest and used the other hand to reach on top of her head, while stupidly mumbling「Aa—— strange ——」.

She seems to be unable to find the leaf.

I walked closer to her slowly and quickly picked out the leaf that was struck in her hair. All of these felt very natural to me, even I myself do not know the reason why.

「Ah.」

The girl looked at me dumbly. After I showed that leaf to Arisu, I threw it away.

「Erm…… That ～」

I looked at Arisu, but my line of sight kept heading towards her chest. And Arisu's face eventually blushed due to shyness.

「Please don't keep staring at me like that.」

「Sorry.」

I shifted my sights away.

「Yes, that～」

「When speaking with others, please look at the other person's eyes.」

Just what exactly do you want me to do. No choice, I had to stare into Arisu's eyes. I didn't expect that I was almost sucked away by that obsidian glow. In my panic, I could only ask some meaningless questions.

「Are you okay?」

「Ah, yes I am. It is all thanks to you.」

「That is great. That～ luckily I made it in time.」

No, what I had wanted to talk about is not this. And Arisu, you should not be on such a topic too right? I entered in the situation whereby it is not right for me to advance or retreat, and I could only curse at Arisu in my heart. Arisu, you should be full of doubts about all these right? Like magic, and the crow that has been standing on my shoulder since the beginning.

And I am a guy, you should more or less have some guard against me. After all such a thing happened earlier. Ah, but facing a girl who was almost raped, what should I say? No. The more important thing is to let her be dressed properly. I took off my uniform shirt and ask her to wear it. But after I said it halfway, then I discovered……

After just now that battle, my own shirt has also become very tattered.

Arisu looked at me, then looked at my pathetic shirt and could not help but give a bitter smile.

「Thank you for your kind thoughts, but I am fine.」

「Hmm, okay, sorry.」

Damn. I cannot control the pace of the conversation. Not only so, I am actually self-destructing. I have this sudden urge to grab my head and then ran away from her immediately.

「Ah…… Why is Kaya-senpai's hands and legs glowing?」

Luckily, she took the initiative to ask me the question, that was really helpful.

Ah, my goddess. Arisu seems to be shining holy light, making it feel that I need to pray to her.

「Well, this……」

「Ah, sorry. Can I…… sit down?」

「Oh okay…… I am tired too.」

I sat down with Arisu side by side. Initially I thought Arisu will keep a bit of distance away from me, but I didn't expect that she will lean on me and sit down. I can even feel her body warmth.

I turned and looked at her, but of our difference in height, I have to look down.

Our eyes met, and a shy smile surfaced on Arisu's face.

I explained the situation sequentially. Although there is a big change to the initial plan, but I had spent a lot of time in the white room, thinking of which is the best way to explain things to her.

There is alot of time in the white room. Also there is only time in that room.

Hence I feel that my explanation should be very clear and understandable.

I only skipped one point, which is —— why I need to dig traps.

She seems to be interesting in this matter but she did not specially asked about it, but just listening to me and make the appropriate replies.

Arisu is really a good listener. No matter how simple my explanation is, the content is actually quite absurd. Honestly, if it was me who heard of this suddenly, I don't think I will believe it.

But Arisu have just been attacked by a creature that does not exist normally like an orc, perhaps because of this, she is much more accepting of the words that I said.

「I escaped here. That creature…… is called an orc? It suddenly attacked the middle school section and everyone escaped everywhere……」So that is the reason, I nodded. Arisu raised her head and looked at me without moving.

「Can I become strong? Can I also become just as strong as Kaya-senpai?」

She took the initiative to ask.

「As long as you can kill an orc, you should be able to. If you have the will, I will naturally help you……」

「I want to kill.」

Arisu did not hesitate to say it. After I finished my words, perhaps only 0.5 seconds have passed.

「Please Kaya-senpai, please grant me power. Please give me the power to fight. I hate being powerless, and I hate being trampled upon helplessly.」

「I understand, no problem.」

Everything is according to plan. Although things have developed slightly different from how I imagined, but it is still on the same path.

Well…… it should be.

Chapter 07: Arisu's Awakening

20 minutes later.

I am running away from the 4th orc that I met today, to lure the orc to the trap that Arisu is waiting at. My familiar, the crow —— is crowing in the sky. Perhaps it is cheering for me? (TL note: Somehow I WANT ONE TOOO!!!!)

This orc is different from the previous one and it has a spear in its hand. Although it is a roughly-made rusty spear, but it is still much stronger than the bamboo spear. I am thinking that, after I drop the orc into the trap, I should think of ways to get this spear.

Because we can attack at it one-sidedly, hence there is definitely a chance for victory. Once I think about facing a monster that can fight back, I shivered in fear.

Even I am like this, she must be even more afraid.

But we can think about this later. Right now I am keeping an appropriate distance away from the orc, a distance which he cannot catch up and where he is not too far.

The reason is because the power of《Physical Up》has increased roughly around 2 times.

I now know that, once I increased Support Magic to Rank 2, I will not only get new magic, but the effect of the existing magic will also increase.

Because I have increased my level to 2, my MP have also increased. After I asked in the white room, I now know that I can use Rank 1 magic for around 2 times more.

When I am at level 1, I can only use 10 times of Rank 1 magic.

When I am at level 2, I can use it 20 times.

As this is too troublesome, so I decided to use「1 MP」to express that「I can use Rank 1 magic for 1 time」.

In other words, my MP is now 20.

As for HP, I only knew that it rose.

I am not going to get attacked by the orc just to find out the greatest value of my HP.

I got near to the trap and signaled to the back of the trunk. Just as we discussed, Arisu is hiding behind a tree.

Her clothes that were originally torn by the orc, is not completely restored. This is because I use Rank 2 Support Magic《Repair》. That was a magic that was originally used for repairing weapon and protective gears. After I used it on torn clothes, the clothes turned in a state that is like it had been washed. But this magic seems to be unable to remove the sweat and mud on the clothes, so it still looks a bit dirty.

Okay. I jumped across the trap and landed on the other side. This is the third time; hence I am already very familiar with it.

I turned my head, and the orc that was chasing me, give a heavy step and stepped on the place that I was just at.

And he stepped onto the trap that was covered with fallen leaves.

The orc's figure disappeared, and a second later, a cry came from within the trap.

I took a peek at the trap, and saw that bamboo spears in the hole piercing through the orc's body.

This time the bamboo spears penetrate very clearly, and due to this, the orc released the spear in its hands. Though it is good that there is no need to think about methods to get the spear, but……

What if this becomes the determining blow? We have to act faster. I took the plastic bucket, and poured the contents into the trap.

The orc's body is covered with oil.

「Shimonozo-san!」

「Yes!」

Arisu ran out from behind the tree, and lighted the ball of newspaper with a lighter, before throwing it into the hole. The orc's body began to burn.

「The bamboo spear!」

「I… I am going to strike!」

Arisu held the bamboo spear with an anxious face. I ran to her, and gently touched her trembling hands.

「《Mighty Arm》.」

Arisu's arms began to glow. Maybe it is because I leveled up, the glow seems to be even brighter.

「Thank……you.」

「Un, good luck.」

Arisu flinched and I lightly patted her shoulders.

「Bring out your guts!」

「Yes!」

The tip of the spear was dyed black because of the magic that I cast on it.

《Blood Attraction》—— This is the new magic that I gained when I raised the Rank of Support Magic to rank 2.

Arisu shouted with her cute voice, and stabbed the spear into the hole.

The orc's groans echoed from the hole.

At the same time, Arisu's body is surrounded by bluish-white light. The wounds on Arisu's body gradually healed, as long as one uses a weapon that is enchanted with《Blood Attraction》to injure the enemy, the wielder's wounds will gradually disappear.

In RPG terms, as long as you decrease the enemy's HP, the wielder's HP will recover.

With this, it amounts to increasing the attacking power as a whole, no wonder this magic is a Rank 2 magic.

With every stab from Arisu, the orc groaned. Arisu stanned towards the hole furiously.

Finally, the orc's groans stopped. I looked into the hole, and saw the fatally wounded orc gradually disappearing.

Arisu's body suddenly shook.

Although it is only for an instant, I can clearly feel that the change in the aura surrounding Arisu. Yes, she has already leveled up to Level 1. She is now the same as me, having the qualifications to enter that white room. It maybe like an instant to me, but she has already spent a long time in that room.

I suggested to her to use the laptop to ask all sorts of information, if she followed my words, she must have spent at least 1 or 2 hours.

Because of that, she seems so calm.

Arisu breathed out. With the spear in her hand, she turned towards me.

Maybe it is just me, but the stance which she used to hold the spear seems to be more natural.

No, it did indeed became so.

「I have gotten Spear Skill and Healing Magic.」Arisu said so.

「《Heal》」

Arisu cast healing magic towards my hand.

My hand that was hurting due to the abrasions and wounds, was wrapped in bluish white light.

The pain gradually disappears, and in an instant, even the scars are gone.

Only a red trace was seen at the wound, like a proof that it was injured before.

「I see, that is really convenient.」

「Yes.」

Arisu laughed and began to heal her wounds. It was obvious that her wounds are more serious, but she insisted on using the healing magic on me first.

「There is really a white room.」

「So you actually suspected me.」

「Not that wasn't it……」

I gave a bitter smile.

「After all this is hard to for people to believe in.」

「That's right.」

The truth is, if our positions are reversed…… Mmm, I will probably be the same.

「But I did choose the Skill. This is all due to Gaya-senpai.」

「Just call me Kazuhisa or Kazu. Because we are companions.」

「Yes, Kazuhisa-san……Kazu-san. That～」

A shy smile appeared on Arisu's face as she looked up towards me.

「Please call me Arisu since everyone does that. Also I am your Kouhai, so just call my name directly.」(TL note: Kouhai = junior)

「I understand, Arisu.」

「Yes!」

Arisu happily smiled. Seeing her expression, I am also infected with her happiness, and smiled.

「Do you know how to use the spear now?」

「Yes.」

The weapon in her hand, is the rusty spear of the orc that just died.

The metal spearhead maybe rusty, but it is still much better than the bamboo spear that I made casually.

So this spear should also be《Repair》as well. I borrowed the spear from Arisu and use my hand to touch the spearhead.

「《Repair》」

The metallic spearhead glowed with blue light and the rust gradually disappeared. After about 10 seconds, the metal tip of the spear became almost like new, radiating its shininess.

「Wah～」

Arisu could not help but exclaimed in surprise.

「Amazing, Kazu-senpai.」

「Yes, amazing.」

Although that is done by me, but I also said it uncaringly. Because the thing that happened in front of me is really extraordinary. It should be, in my heart, there is already no more feelings of the reality.

「But as long as I have this, I will..... be able to fight.」

Arisu clutched her lips and nodded with a stern expression.

「I am no longer powerless.」

Chapter 08: The Faraway Scenery

The method to create a party is very simple. As long as their palms are connected, and chanted in their heart, a red circle will appear on their right hand's little finger.

The red circle seems like a ring, but it does not have a solid form so you cannot touch it with your hand. It feels like AR technology——that was what I thought. A certain remarkable sci-fi author seemed to said:「Over development of magic will be just like science」..... Wow～is that so?

「....Matching rings.」

Arisu looked up towards me, with a shy smile on her face.

That smile seems like an innocent flower, making swallow my saliva.

I do not know if she saw my nervousness. I observed Arisu who is full of smiles, and it seems that she is just purely happy.

Ah, forget it. Anyway, I found my companion. This is considered as taking a big step.

Now the urgent thing is.....

「Let's check out the current situation.」

I mumbled, asking Arisu to follow me, and then walked in the direction away from the main road. Arisu followed me panically.

「Where are you going to?」

「There is a cliff in front, from there we will be able to see the bus stop.」

Arisu gave a surprised expression.

Yes, it is ah. It is normal having such a reaction.

But now it is not a usual situation. Arisu and I must both acknowledge this, and confirm it with our eyes.

At this moment, what exactly happened in this mountain? No, we have to know what exactly happened.

Our school —— Kitayama Private School, is situated in a mountain known as Kitayama by the natives.

More accurately saying, it should be that the entire mountain is the property of the school.

From the nearest bus stop through the fields until the foot of the mountain via car, will take you at least 30 mins.

From the foot of the mountain to the school building, the journey via car will also take 30mins, and the road condition is very bad, which is ill-suited for walking.

The building for the Middle School is at the South-west side of the mountain, while the building for High School is at the South-east side.

There are 2 roads connecting the 2 school buildings. Just now the road where we hunted the orc, is the further one, and we called it「South Road」.

If we take the north side road that connects the 2 school building, it will only take 10mins. But according to Arisu, after the earthquake, that road is covered by the landslide, and no longer functional. From the start she also uses that road to escape, but after discovering that there is no way out, she is forced to escape to here.

Anyway, our current position, is at the longer route that connects the 2 school building, and also slightly south at the middle of the South Road.

We are currently heading south from here, so that when we reached the cliff and look down, we should be able to see the bus stop at the nearby streets of the city.

We, who have reached the cliff, could really see the scenery from faraway.

But yet we could only stare at the vast grassland in front of us.

That's right, it's a grassland. At the horizon are majestic mountains, but directly in front of us is a big patch of grassland.

Not to mention the city, even a building or a field cannot be seen. Of course there is no human in sight.

The birds flew above us. But looking at them clearly, we discovered that they are different from the species that we know of.

The birds that we knew, are not that big. Don't even mention about the existing birds, even the dinosaurs are not that big.

That huge bird landed on the grassland.

There is an elephant on the grassland. But the huge bird is bigger than that elephant, it used its sharp claws and lightly grabbed on the elephant, before spreading its wings to fly……

Then, it disappeared over the other side of the horizon like this.

「That, I want to ask a very stupid question now.」

Mmm, me too. I wish to say some very, very idiotic words, and I wish to say it desperately.

「Where is the bus stop?」

「I don't know, it should not be far from here.」

Well that is true —— Arisu said, scratching the back of her head in embarrassment.

Hmm～ that's not it right? The thing that you wanted to say is not this right? I lowered my head and looked at the girl beside me, while Arisu looked at me with a troubled look.

「Sorry, I do not know what kind of expression to make now.」

You can laugh—— I wanted to say that, but I do not wish to let her know that I am a nerd, so I mumbled over after halfway through the sentence.

It has already come to this, and I am still minding such insignificant stuff, I can't help but feel that I am like an idiot……I have already expected such a situation.

I have vaguely guessed our current situation. In that white room, I have asked many questions with this situation as an example, although the other party never gave me a clear answer, but once you chain all of the answers known to us, it becomes clear.

Hence the reason I came to this place, is actually just to confirm it.

I guess, this probably happened during the earthquake.

At that time, we……

No, it should be that the whole mountain is involved in a huge change.

I gently held Arisu's hand. Her hand is very warm. Arisu held my hands tightly back, as though she found a driftwood in the sea.

「Arisu, let's level up together, and then go back to ask the questions.」

「Yes, Kazu-senpai…… Let's level up together.」

We cannot stay here aimlessly.

So we decided on our next target.

Level up. After leveling up, head to the white room, and ask the other party what is the situation.

We held hands together, returning back via the same route.

The crow scouted in the air, and found the orcs.

Those orcs seem to come from the top of the mountain. When they are heading down, the path they went through intersected with the road, and hence they splited left and right. The ones heading east will reach the high school building, while the ones heading west will reach the middle school building.

「What does the mountain top have exactly?」

Such a question appeared in my heart, but the me of now does not wish to rush into a bunch of orcs. We lure the orcs one by one to the forest on the north of the road, and waited until they reached deep in the forest where no sounds of fighting can be heard, then Arisu and I will work together to kill them.

Arisu's spear skills is very good. More accurately speaking, it should be that the power of Spear Skill is very remarkable.

The Arisu from just now could not even stand firmly, and when she stabs, there is a lack of strength and she cannot even hit accurately. In short, it was bad. But now, she who have gotten Spear Skill Rank 1, is already like a soldier who is well-trained, standing firmly and stabbing with the spear, toying around with the orcs.

Just by ability alone, Arisu is about the same as the orcs.

But, Arisu has my support magic.

《Keen Weapon》, 《Physical Up》 and 《Mighty Arm》.

These 3 support magic has been very helpful to me since Rank 1, and after it became Rank 2, the effect became even greater, supporting Arisu.

Thanks to these support magic, even if it is 1 vs 1, this girl who is smaller and weaker, is able to suppress the orcs who are muscular.

The orc swings its sword wildly, attacking from the front.

Arisu widened the distance from the orc with her nimble footsteps from 《Physical Up》, then focused her strength into her limbs enhanced with 《Mighty Arm》 and using the metal spear sharpened with 《Keen Weapon》 to attack.

Arisu's attack caused the orc to have a serious injury on his leg, and it fell down, groaning.

This moment, without a shred of hesitation, Arisu stabbed the spear in the orc's body, and the humanoid creature with a pig face began to ooze blue blood.

The orc immediately tried to run away, but Arisu chased it without hesitation.

Thanks to 《Physical Up》, Arisu's strides are faster than the orc.

Arisu caught up with the orc in an instant. With a scream, she stabbed again, and the orc shrieked.

The battle took roughly about 1 minute. Then the orc that has its throat stabbed by Arisu began to glow, and gradually disappear.

We intercepted the orcs from the front, and obtained victory

「That's great!」

Arisu is ecstatic. Although she is still panting from the battle that just ended, but she still jumped around happily with her spear, and then hugged me.

Her voluptuous peaks are pressed on my chest.

That softness and elasticity feel caused my words to become incoherent, and I lowered my head to look at Arisu..... She who recovered, began to blush and turn her sight away from me.

「Th... that, I am sorry.」

Arisu quickly let go of me, and turned to the side, but she will take peeks at me occasionally.

Just what is with this girl, that intelligence and nimbleness from just now, and the innocent and defenseless look now, isn't the difference too big.....

Suddenly the alarm in my heart rang. Could she be trying to win me over? Or making use of me? No, actually this is not bad.

Currently we both need each other. If she does not have my support magic, when Arisu is facing the orcs, she could be in a tough battle. Even under the assistance of《Mighty Arm》, her strength is still weaker than the orcs. When facing close combat, and a battle of strength situation, she will be suppressed onto the ground immediately. To escape from the opponent's attack range,《Physical Up》that increases speed is essential.

Also removing the spear's rust, and strengthening its attacking power, is also my magic. If an emergency situation occurs, I intend to use the crow to restrain the orc, to protect her. After all, my level is now 2, there are a lot of methods to use.

Hence, at least for now, our benefits to each other is the same.

The problem is in the future? She once said that she needs power, I should have asked her for the reason she wanted power for. I should have asked it earlier, that is really a miscalculation.

I lowered my head, disheartened. Arisu observed me carefully.

「Arisu, we know that we have the power to fight. Now is to determine our next direction.」

Saying this, my eyes met with Arisu's. I stared straight into her obsidian eyes.

「What do you wish to do next?」

Arisu hesitated for a moment, and then nodded her head vigorously.

「I have a request.」

After she finished her words, she looked towards the West.

The other side of the forest, should be the school building for the Middle School. So to say, she was chased by the orc from there until here.

She said she headed to the north road to escape first, before changing route, and then reaching here; but before that, where was she? Where did she meet the orcs?

「I wish to save my friend. Kazu-senpai, will you go to the Middle School Building with me?」

Friend. She wanted to save her friend.

「You are saying…… to save your friends from the orcs?」

Arisu nodded.

And then she lowered her head, seemingly unable to speak.

Finally, she decided, clutching her hands in front of her chest, and looked at me.

She spoke……

「I left my friend who was being chased by an orc, and escaped alone.」

And admitted her sin.

Chapter 09: Level Up

Shimonozo Arisu said that she had a very good friend.

Her name is Ryuuki Tamaki. They have been in the same class for the 3 years in the Middle School, and no matter where they went, they are inseparable.

「Tamaki is a very lively girl, and she frequently runs. I am not good with sports, but I like to watch Tamaki run in the past. I am always looking from the side, until a certain time when she came and took my hand, telling me『Let's play together』. Thanks to her, I managed to make a lot of friends.」

Arisu gave an embarrassed smile. She said that she is a not a person who can make friends readily, and thanks to this friend, she can enjoy a happy school life.

I replied at appropriate times, while listening to her explain.

「Today the 2 of us should be in the Cultivating Centre. Tamaki said that she wanted to learn how to cook, so I agreed to teach her.」

The Cultivating Centre is a building with multiple facilities near the middle school building, it was modified from the old school building. The aim of this building, is to let the students who are isolated in the mountain, learn all sort of skills and talents. In this building, there are rooms with exceptionally luxurious wooden floors and rooms with tatami.

It is said that that building even had a cooking classroom.

「But after the earthquake, the fire suddenly extinguished, and the water also stopped…… Then the orcs appeared.」

She said that there are about 10 orcs. After Tamaki and Arisu left the Cultivating Centre, they tried to escape to the high school building. First they headed to the road in the north, but instead they discovered that the road is buried in soil and rocks, becoming inaccessible.

In the end the 2 of them are discovered by the orcs here. It seems that it was because Arisu accidentally let out a sound.

In order to save Arisu, Tamaki willingly became bait. She said that she is faster, and had a higher chance of escaping successfully, and after saying she took off immediately.

While the orc is chasing after Tamaki, Arisu escaped into the forest.

But in the end she is still discovered by another orc, and then discovered by my familiar.

「I believe Tamaki is still alive. We agreed, if we are safe, we will meet in the forest……」

「Did you agreed to meet at a location?」

Arisu did not say anything, and pointed to a stone tablet near the place that we just hunted an orc.

There is actually such a thing, I did not know about this before……It is said that they discovered it when Arisu and Tamaki came to the forest to「adventure」. She said that the 2 of them decided to meet here because the「adventure」at that time is a precious memory to them.

「I only managed to escape because of Tamaki. Hence, I must save Tamaki.」

I pondered about the possibility of that girl who is called Tamaki being safe and alive, but yet being unable to come to this place.

I have never been to the Cultivating Centre, only hearing about it from my classmates. The Cultivating Centre is in the forest, a distance away from the other buildings. When there are lesser people heading there, the surroundings woods gradually took over, and without knowing it is swallowed by the forest.

Hence, the vision in that region is very bad. I remember the notice by the school, requesting students to take extra care after dark. If that girl called Tamaki managed to escape from the orc, she would think of ways to escape into that forest.

Is it possible that she can't do that? For instance, an injury causing her to only hide.

Well that is not impossible.

The question now, is not about the chances of the girl called Tamaki being safe, but the fact that as long as the girl Tamaki have a slight chance of being safe, Arisu will attempt to go rescue her.

「We must avoid the situation of dying while saving others.」

Hence I said this.

「If we were defeated while going to save others, then that is definitely a no.」

「Yes.」

「Wait until your Spear Skills and my Summon Magic are both Rank 2, then we will got check it out.」

「Yes!」

Arisu nodded obediently.

This is the best compromise for the both of us—— I thought so in my heart. Luckily she has a goal, hence because of this, her modus operandi becomes very clear.

Next is to fit the things that each of us wanted.

Conversely, if she hid it from me, and took actions alone to fulfil her goal, I will be more troubled by it. Now, we are considered as united. I cannot separate from her at this point. At least until I reach level 3, and raise my Summon Magic to Rank 2.

Once I reach level 3, I can summon Puppet Golems. And once I called 2 of the Puppet Golems, and use Support Magic to strengthen them, I should be able to battle with the orcs to a certain extent.

Just that I do not know how Puppet Golem works.

But, in the Q&A earlier, the other party once answered me: using Summon Magic to call out Familiars, the ability value is about 2 Ranks lower than a human with weapon attack Skills.

And now my Support Magic has already risen to Rank 2, the effect of《Keen Weapon》,《

Physical Up》and《Mighty Arm》have already gotten stronger.

From Arisu's current actions, through the rank up of the Summon Magic and Rank 2 Familiars which became stronger, with the addition of these Support Magic, it should be able to defeat an orc easily.

Before that, I still need this shield called Arisu. I cannot let her go.

Arisu agreed with my suggestion, that is good.

Initially I was still very nervous, what if she said「I want to go save her now」. What should I do? Of course, I do not wish to go back on my words. Once I reached Level 3, I will raise the Summon Magic Skill to Rank 2, and then follow our promise and send the crow to scout.

But, if according to the scouting report, if I discover that we cannot enter the Cultivating Centre by force, then I will also tell her directly.

I don't wish to conduct a suicide attack. If it is possible, I also do not wish for Arisu to do so.

Once Arisu's Spear Skill reach Rank 2, I will use Summon Magic to call out Puppet Golems, and increase our combat strength, then even if we face 2 or 3 orcs at once, perhaps it will not be a problem. Even if there is 4 of them, we should be able to find a solution.

But, what if the 10 orcs that she mentioned are still there……

If those fellows are all gathered at the same place…… Then that is impossible, we do not have any chance of victory.

At least not until both Arisu and I have increased our level further.

When that happens, I intend to convince her with reason. As for whether it will be successful, I do not know, I can only try.

Assuming such a situation, if Arisu still insist on going to save her……

I will abandon her, and let her go on alone.

She should be unable to win against those orcs. A tragedy will definitely happen.

But I will not stop her. I can't stop her. In my heart, I am indebted to her.

Because she is present, that is why I can level up safely. Under the current situation, this is something at put one at ease.

More importantly. she is sincere towards me. Including the enemies' number, the danger in the Cultivating Centre, she told me everything. She asked for my assistance in such a situation.

Telling me all of dangers honestly, will increase the chances of me rejecting it, but she still said it.

She faced me seriously.

Hence I also wish to face her sincerely. I will not trick her.

I took a look at my watch, and the needle is pointing to 4.30pm. The time when the earthquake happened, is roughly around 2.30pm to 3pm, which is to say from the earthquake until now, only 2 hours have passed.

In this season, the sun will set before 6pm.

No, at least yesterday and the day before is like this. Since such a thing happened, then today may not be the same as before. But from the height of the sun, there should not be a big difference in the sunset timing. Moving in the forest at night is dangerous.

「Hurry up, we must level up within 30 mins from now, before 5pm.」

「Yes!」

I sent out the crow familiar, and ordered it to search of orcs who are alone.

Then I ran to the orc, and lure it to Arisu.

When Arisu is fighting with the orc, I sent the crow familiar to search for the next orc.

Though the endless cycle of not wasting a second, the 2 of us within 20mins, defeated 3 orcs. And Arisu leveled up.

The next second.

Arisu and I entered the white room together.

Chapter 10: Prepare for Battle

Arisu and I looked at each other in the White Room.

「What is going on?」

「Perhaps it is because of this.」

I looked at the illusionary red rings on our little fingers.

Then, I turned my sights to the table.

This time there are 2 sets of tables and chairs side by side in the room.

The laptops on the tables, are showing the my ability value and Aris's respectively.

I took a peek at Arisu's computer screen.

「So this is Arisu's ability values……」

「Wa, Wah wah, no you cannot see!」

「What the problem, after all it is not something unspeakable.」

「But I will be embarrassed!」

Arisu jumped up and down with a panicked face, attempting to push me away from her laptop.

I felt that her reactions are very funy, so I deliberately continue to take peeks at her laptop.

「Muu~」

Arisu blushed, then, I lightly poked her at the sides.

「This is a harassment.」

「Just a joke to smooth the mood.」

「There is an sly look on your face.」

I did not deny that. Looking at Arisu who is blushing and using her hand to cover the screen, I laughed.

「Mu-! That's too much! I was wrong about Kazu-senpai!」

「Sorry, that was too much.」

Seeing that we cannot continuing discussing, hence I apologized honestly.

This is only wasting time. But in this room whereby time has stopped, it doesn't matter how much we waste.

That's right, we can waste time, but we can also not waste time.

This room is really too suitable for strategy planning.

Well, we sat in our own chairs, and entered questions into the laptop. The reason why we can enter this room together. Is it because one of the members in the party leveled up? The answer is YES. In the future as long as a person in the party level up, everyone in the party will be able to enter this room.

If you changed the setting in this laptop, you will also be able to stop coming to this room.

Yes, the options showing on the screen indeed increased. Under the「Party Members」field, Arisu's name appeared. There is a checkbox on the left of the name, if you check it, it seems that you can cancel the function of the party member entering the room together.

「There is no need for this function……」

I did not feel that I would not want to come to this room.

It is actually the opposite. Unless there are problems between the relationships of the party members, or perhaps hiding one's ability, if not there are only pros coming to this room.

The best benefit is that there are plenty of time to organise your thoughts calmly, and there are also ample time to discuss with your party members. I can discuss with Arisu on how to cooperate in detail. This can be discussed after I reached level 3 when the sun is about to set and when time is of utmost essential.

「Do you have any matters that you wish to discuss now?」

I asked Arisu.

「This……」

Arisu looked at me who is sitting on the chair, seemingly a bit hesitant.

「Can I…… ask about stuff regarding Kazu-senpai?」

「My stuff are very boring, there is nothing much to talk about.」

I gave such a reply immediately.

Arisu lowered her head. She is a smart person, and should have realized that I do not wish to touch on this matter.

「Well. Then, we can talk about it in the future.」

「Mmm, if there is a chance I will tell you.」

I will say it when there are chances in the future. If that time, you are still around with me.

I added this sentence secretly in my heart.

Arisu returned to her chair, and controlled her laptop.

Arisu: Level 2 Spear Skill 1→2／Healing Magic 1 Skill Point 2→0At the moment when she clicked confirm, we returned to the forest.

「Okay, we got to act faster. Although we do not know how many orcs we need to defeat before we can level up, But it is better to be faster.」

「Yes..... that, I say if. If there are 2 orcs, can you bring both together?」

I see, her Spear Skill has already raised to Rank 2, plus with my support, perhaps she can deal with 2 orcs at the same time.

If it is too much, I can send my crow familiar to support. If it is impossible to win, our speed has also became faster with the assistance of support magic. All we need to do is escape.

No matter what, there will be situations where we need to face a lot of enemies at once. We need to test how to deal with it now. At this moment, the crow returned.

「That side, there are 2. This side, there is 1.」

The crow used its beak to point out the directions to me.

「Bring me to the side where there are 2 of them.」

I said so, whiIe beginning to run.

I brought back 2 orcs, and Arisu looks as though it is nothing much.

I don't know if its me, but her posture seems more impressive while she is holding the spear.

「Can you do it?」

「Yes!」

While we brushed past each other, we briefly talked.

Arisu lowered her centre of gravity, and kick off the ground, dashing towards the orcs with an impressive presence.

After I brushed past Arisu, I stopped and headed back.

As though she was very relaxed, Arisu held the heavy metal spear and crossed eyes with the orc that is dashing towards her with its sword raised up.....

Her body slanted towards the right and moved, striking at the orc with very smooth movements.

With one strike, Arisu pierced the throat of the orcs on her right.

I was shocked beyond words, staring blankly at the scene in front of me. Her movements are so smooth that it sends shiver down one's spine. It was as though she was like a martial arts expert, completely controlling the space and pace of her opponents.

The other orc missed, and Arisu took the chance to let go of the metal spear in her hands.

「Kazu-senpai!」

「Okay.」

I immediately grabbed the bamboo spear beside the tree, and threw it to her.

When dealing with 2 orcs at the same time, the spear that is used to stab the 1st orc may become temporarily unusable. We have considered this point, and hence prepared the bamboo spear aside as a back up.

Once Arisu got the bamboo spear, she displayed a battle pose, taking a big step forward, using the bamboo spear to stab the other panicking orc.

But, this time the attack is slightly shallow.

This orc held the spear in its hand. It used its shoulder to take Arisu's attack, and while screeching in pain, it spinned its body forcefully.

The orc swung the spear horizontally, with the wind pressure nearly blowing Arisu away. No how strong the Spear Skill is, she is after all just a Year 3 Middle School girl.

Luckily with the support of《Physical Up》and《Mighty Arm》, Arisu managed to stablise her steps.

She dashed nimbly towards the orc who was unstable due to the attack just now, and tackled its body. The hand holding the bamboo spear, shifted the spear head and stabbed accurately at the orc's weakness— its throat.

Blue blood sprayed around.

The orc collapsed, unmoving.

The combat time taken for the 2 orc, is only roughly about 10 seconds. If my movement was smoother when I was throwing the back up bamboo spear to her, the time taken should be shorter.

「It was unexpectedly successful.」

Arisu turned over, and smiled at me. Behind her, the bodies of 2 fallen orcs gradually disappeared, leaving a gem.

A opening trumpet music rang in my ears.

「You leveled up!」

I heard a neutral voice saying so.

So that's it — I thought so in my heart. After I formed a party with Arisu, we have defeated a total of 6 orcs, which is to say, everyone got an average experience of 3 orcs.

「So we just have to defeat the same amount of orcs as the next level individually.」

Arisu and I were transferred to the white room together.

We looked at each other in the white room once again.

「With this, I can raise the Summon Magic to Rank 2.」

「Yes.」

「As per our agreement, let's go and check out the Cultivating Centre.」

「Yes!」

Hence, to save time, we have to discuss on a thorough plan.

「First, we will move to the nearby of the Cultivating Centre. When we meet any orcs that are patrolling nearby, if we avoid being detected by other orcs, we will quickly take care of them.」

「We just have to decrease the numbers.」

「Next, we just have to observe the situation, when we meet one then we will solve it……」

The time now should be 5pm, perhaps there is no time to do a detailed investigation. Though I said so, but battling in the night is not really advisable.

The more important thing is that, the orcs may have night vision. As to whether or not that they have such an ability, there isn't much relations to the current situation. But before we know these fellows' nature fullym we have to act with the assumption that「Orcs have night vision ability.」

「Night vision ability…… Is it like a cat, where their eyes glow in the night?」

「That I do not know. But, mountain boars moves in the night, and pigs are domestic mountain boars.」

「Ah, that is true.」

「But even though we are all humans, as modern Japanese, our eyes have already deteriorated a lot…… We should be considered as a race that does not have good eyesight. But for people that hunts as their way of life, it is said that even during night, they can navigate in the forest easily……」

「Kazu-senpai is so knowledgable.」

No, this seems to be a story from a novel.

Arisu's eyes were dazzling, hence I decided to just let to go. In short, moving in the night is not advantageous to us.

「In Rank 2 Summon Magic, there seems to be a magic called《Summon Floating Lantern》, which can summon a torch that floats in the air……」

「A torch is too attention grabbing.」

Actually I feel that using a torchlight is enough. Just that I do not have a torchlight now.

「Anyway, if it attracts the enemies to gather here, then that will be troublesome. After all we are small in numbers. If we are surrounded by a large number of orcs, there is nothing we can do.」

Hence, once the enemies outnumbers us, then the basic tactics will be to battle while escaping.

「If there are less than 3 orcs in the same place, then we will take them down with a strong attack. Arisu just have to show her strength that you displayed just now when you defeat the 2 orcs. It is very simple!」

「Th..this…… I will do my best.」

Arisu clenched her fist, her actions seemingly adorable. This defenseless look, is really hard to let one believe that she was the one who fought like an Asura just now.

「If there are more than 7 orcs then we will escape immediately. If there are above 4 but lesser than 6, then we will use either my familiar or myself as bait, and defeat each individually.」

「But, the risk that Kazu-senpai is taking will be too high.」

「Before getting the hang of the orcs' action modulus, actually you are in greater danger, and there is a possibility of being surrounded. If such a situation occurs, I do not have the ability to save you, so if we failed……」

「I understand.」

Arisu held her hands tightly in front of her chest.

Her shoulders slightly trembled. This is natural, how can one not be afraid. If she fails, she will suffer the worse fate as a girl, and then killed later. She held such a determination, wanting to save her best friend wholeheartedly.

「I had fallen into the hands of the orcs before……If Kazu-senpai did not save me at that time……」

「You will decide whether if we will implement this plan. If you feel that it is too much……」

「No,」

Even so, Arisu still shook her head. She surpassed her trembling with her strong will, and look straight into my eyes.

「I want to do it, please let me do it.」

She clearly announced it so.

Kazuhisa: Level 3 Support Magic 2 / Summon Magic 1 → 2　Skill Point 2 → 0

Chapter 11: Breaking into the Cultivating Centre

After I level up to Level 3, 15 minutes have passed.

The 2 of us are already at the bushes near the Cultivating Centre.

I am a transfer student who only transferred over during High School, hence I am not familiar with this building and had to have Arisu explain it to me.

The Cultivating Centre is a wooden building that is 3 stories high. About 40 years ago, it is being used as the school building, only until recently it is renovated to become the current look. Although it is said to be renovated, but it is said to have almost been completely rebuilt. Not only replacing the old and rotting wood, the main pillar is used as the core, and it used the wood that can still be used. The more important parts are reinforced with steel, and the originally 2 stories building is rebuilt into one with 3 stories.

Not only are the electricity, gas and water systems completely new, even heaters are installed. The facilities are even better than the main school buildings.

As for the interior, rather than saying it is a school, it is closer to that of the western building commonly seen inside movies. Entering from the main door, it is a 2 stories big lounge. On the first floor, there are cooking classrooms and the showers. On the second floor, there are japanese styled rooms that are being used by the Tea Ceremony Society and junior-sized ballrooms. On the third floor, there are multi purposed big-sized conference rooms and guestrooms for VIPs.

The basement which is normally locked, stored provisions and fuels that can be used during disasters.

Actually my summoning magic can also summon food, and also water. But currently there isn't such a need, moreover MP is very valuable, so I didn't conduct any experiments.

But there are back-up fuels, which makes one happy. In such a situation, it is very valuable to have fuel.

Hence, even without Arisu's reason, taking over the Cultivating Centre is an attractive suggestion in itself. And with the approaching night, taking over the Cultivating Centre also means securing a place for the night.

According to Arisu, at that time there are about 10 people in the Cultivating Centre. Among them, 5 of them are in the cooking classrooms, and there are about 5 people in the Tea Ceremony Society.

「The door in front of the level 3 stairs is closed. That door is locked, so as long as the orcs did not break in, we should not need to pay any special attention to the third story.」

Arisu whispered while hiding in the bushes.

「If there are any orcs on the level 2 balcony, then we should be able to see it immediately..... In short, as long as we see the lounge, I guess we can grasp the general situation.」

「If there are only 2 orcs and below in the lounge, there is no need to consider. Just attack.」

「Okay.」

Before reaching here, we have battled with the orcs twice, and every time Arisu stuck the throat, killing the orc immediately. Her battle tactic is already so polished that there is no chance of the opponent to even scream.

Arisu is currently level 2, which is to say after leveling, she has already took care of 4 orcs. Because the experience is shared among the 2 of us, so she only needs to kill 2 more orcs, then she will be able to level up.

After leveling, we can conduct another strategic meeting in the white room. Even if it is during battle, we can also spend a lot of time to confirm the battle tactics.

This is a big plus point. Hence, if there are only 2 orcs and below, there is no need to consider. Just attack. Because we will have time to plan in detail, even if the worst situation happens —— Like reinforcement from the enemy, we can also calm down, and immediately escape.

There is no signs of orcs in the surroundings, so I sent the crow to investigate.

The crow flew to the main gate of the Cultivating Centre, and landed, looking into the interior of the centre.

It really looks like a very suspicious crow.

Well, in reality it is indeed a spy……

Luckily, nothing happened. The crow spread its wings and flew while giving off a Ka ka sound, returning to my side.

「Orcs, 2.」

The voice that only I can hear, sounded in my ears.

「Okay, good job!」

I nodded, and looked into Arisu's eyes.

Arisu swallowed her saliva, and held her spear tightly.

「Don't panic, I will cast magic on you first.」

《Keen Weapon》, 《Physical Up》, 《Mighty Arm》, 《Blood Attraction》.

I cast the magic sequentially. Even if she is injured a little, as long as she uses 《Blood Attraction》 to absorb HP from the orcs, she should be able to continue fighting.

But the problem is that, what if she is hit by those muscular orcs, will the slim Arisu be able to withstand it……

Ah~ this magic seems kind of subtle? Ah, forget it, as long as the meaning gets across. It is better to have then none. Luckily I have enough MP.

Subtracting the 1 point used by the crow familiar, the MP that I have now is 29 points.

Using 4 types of magics on Arisu, the remaining MP is 24 points.

……Argh~ this should be right.

《Blood Attraction》 is a Rank 2 magic, so it will use twice the amount of MP.

Next, I continued to use magic.

「《Summon Puppet Golem》.」

A wooden puppet of about 150cm in height appeared in front of me. That is a roughly made wooden puppet, 'making one can't help but name it as「Pinocchio」. But its nose is really low though.

The puppet held a pole in its right hand, and a wooden round shield on its left. The puppet then bowed at me.

「So..so cute.」

Arisu's eyes glowed. Oi, oi, you are about to fight with the orcs.

Ah, forget it, having such spirits is also a good thing.

Next, I cast magic on the Puppet Golem.

「《Keen Weapon》, 《Physical Up》, 《Mighty Arm》」

I guess 《Blood Attraction》 is not needed. If the familiar is destroyed, then we will talk about it when it happens.

Finally, I cast these 3 magic on myself too. The MP that Rank 2 summon magic uses is 4 points, so……Current MP/ Maximum MP = 14/25It should be okay like this. Hmph, yes it should be alright.

Taking note of the number of times that I can use magic, is an extremely important point. If it can be like a game, being able to know how much HP and MP are left at anytime, that will be convienent.

The pity is, this world does not seem to be able to show one's ability values. Since this is so, we need to calculate the consumption of MP carefully.

As to how much is recovered, it is very hard to calculate accurately……

After a while, we may need something like a stopwatch? Saying so, looking at the MP left, I should be more careful, and not summon another Puppet Golem first. According to how the battle situation develops, there could be a chance that I will need to summon another, but for now I only need 1 Puppet Golem to act as my guard.

「Go!」

Hearing my sign, Arisu rushed out from the bushes.

Although I am slower by half a beat, but I also rushed out behind her. If there is only 2 orcs, then there is no need for any strategy. In fact, I should also enter the Cultivating Centre, and shut the main door, to prevent the sounds of battle from travelling outside, and attracting any reinforcement of the orcs.

The Puppet Golem also followed behind me shakily. Though its steps seems very unstable, but it is surprisingly fast, and its pace is almost the same as mine.

Arisu stopped in front of the main door.

Her movements stopped for a second. What exactly happened—— me who was slower by a few steps, finally caught up……

I looked into the lounge of the Cultivating Centre.

The orcs are there.

In the dimly lighted lounge, 2 orcs are pressing on a snow-white doll thing. They showed their naked lower bottom, shaking their hips.

I seem to have heard the sound of Arisu clutching her teeth.

Before coming here, I have always thought that she is a gentle, not easily agitated, stable person.

I thought she is a person who can suppress her emotions, a person who can act calmly.

But Arisu of this moment is filled with rage.

She nearly lost all reasonings in her rage.

Arisu lowered her centre of gravity, and kicked off from the ground.

Her black long hair swished with the wind, her whole body turning into a gust of wind, rushing towards the orcs.

The sound of Arisu stepping on the ground, caused the orcs who are focused on shaking their hips to realise the abnormal situation at the door, and hence turned their heads.

But, at this moment——Arisu's spear has already stabbed into the throat of the orc that is closer to her.

Fresh blue blood sprayed everywhere. But Arisu did not have a single drop of blood on her.

In the next instant, her figure disappeared.

No, she simply just turned only. While she is turning, she pulled out the spear in the orc's throat, and using the body of the orc who has stopped breathing as a shield, she hid her figure.

The orc which was uninjured panicked, searching for Arisu's traces. But, her of that moment has already gone behind that orc.

She wielded her spear, and gave a beautiful fierce blow to the orc.

The strike accurately pierced the orc's throat.

At this moment, the 2 orcs fell on each other.

Their bodies gradually fades.

What is this? So scary.

In the future it is better to not make her angry —— I thought so, and sworn in my heart.

Arisu breathed out deeply.

She stared at the thing that looked like a white doll beside her, and then bit her lips tightly.

The next second, we are sent to the white room.

Arisu and I looked at each other in the white room.

Arisu looked at me with an expression full of sorrow. I did not want to ask.

But I had to ask. So I moved my thirsty throat, and spoke.

「That……」

「Is not Tamaki.」

Ah…… I shook my head, and said.

「Is she still breathing?」

「Her neck turned in an unnatural way.」

Arisu clutched her teeth tightly again. Then she clutched her fists, and lowered her head.

「I can't believe it.」

I walked carefully towards Arsu, and lightly patted her head.

Arisu started to sob.

She jumped into my blossom, and cried loudly. I am helpless, and could only let Arisu vent.

That is the only thing that I can do now.

「I am a despicable person.」

After a while, Arisu said so while sobbing.

「There was a second that I was relieved, thinking that it was really great that she is not Tamaki.」

Arisu now sat down on the ground and cried.

And me who lent her my chest to lean on, naturally squat down, so as to hold Arisu.

Arisu's voluptuous twin peaks were tightly pressed on my chest, making me swallow my saliva.

But, this evil thought immediately disappeared. Because the strength that Arisu used to grab on my uniform, became stronger. No, her entire body is slightly shaking.

One can't help but be sad at this sight.

「That girl was killed. She was violated by the orcs then killed, but she is still being violated.

Seeing such a scene, I actually left relieved. I am really the worst type of person.」

This is natural—— I said in my heart.

This is nothing but the result of putting the most important person to you and a stranger on a scale. If it was me, I will definitely be like her and feel relieved too.

That is something natural, and yet Arisu blamed herself so severely.

Her heart is really kind, and I feel that this is a very good thing.

But, that is only a virtue during normal times. In the current situation, that attitude will only be a burden.

But I could not say anything, completely helpless.

Since the beginning, I had the attitude that if something happens, I will abandon her. The me who is like this, how should I comfort her? Words that are said with such insincere intentions, how could it enter her heart? So I only silently listen to Arisu's confession. This is the only thing that I can do.

I quickly supported Arisu who has fallen, and a constant breathing sound could be heard.

「……So she slept.」

I lightly let the girl lie on the floor of the white room.

Then I adjusted my sitting position to a kneeling position, and placed Arisu's head on my thigh.

When we are in this room, the time in the real world has stopped. Since that is so, at least I should let her have a good rest, until her heart feels that it is enough. Just let her sleep to her content.

When we return to reality, that tragic scene will continue.

She will definitely be constantly tormented in her heart.

So at least now I should let her rest —— I lowered my head and looked at Arisu's peaceful sleeping face.

At this moment, I hope that she can rest properly.

I thought so from the bottom of my heart.

Chapter 12: The Clean-up Battle of the Cultivating Centre

I don't know how much time have passed.

Though my legs are numbed, and I felt frustrated, but I cannot wake Arisu who is sleeping soundly. And I do not have any courage to prank her who is sleeping, hence I can only stare at her sleeping face.

It was me who pushed her to the battlefield.

I use this girl who is younger and weaker than me as a shield, and hid myself in safety while battling.

I am after all a guy, to this, more or less I would feel sorry about it.

If it's just this level of numbness in the leg, it can be considered as a sort of repayment for her……

Me who is always thinking in such a petty way, is probably a coward.

Hmm, being a coward is not bad. I will depend on my wits to survive.

I remembered the scene seen from the cliff.

A never-seen before grassland, a huge bird.

And the orcs that attacked us.

「Another world.」

I could not help but say it out.

Even if we escape from the orcs, and successfully left the school, and went down the mountain. Our homes may not be there.

So that is the reason why there is the existence of such a room.

So that is why these Skills exist.

In this world that seems like a joke, and like a game, but yet is reality, we have to survive on.

「I don't wish to die.」

2, 3 hours ago, I had intended to kill that fellow, and as for the things in the future I could wait until then before thinking about it.

But now, I am only concerned on surviving.

Perhaps it is before I experience combat. Perhaps I have a more realistic experience towards「Death」. Now that I know, to me, death is scarier than I expected.

Just be a coward, and then use the power of these Skills to survive on.

For this aim, I must use Arisu.

Since so, just only having numb legs, is nothing much.

While thinking, I felt that a long time has already passed.

Arisu moved. She opened her eyes, and rubbed her eyes sleepily.

Ah—— She wiped her saliva with her hand.

Fooo—— then she gave out a cute voice, and yawned……Then her eyes which has been directed downward, met my eyes.

「Wah!」

「Good morning.」

I revealed a pranking look. Arisu shrieked and rolled away from my thigh.

After that, she kneels and kowtow to me as an apology, saying「Sorry, sorry」.

「After all time does not move in this room, so what is the matter.」

「B..but!」

「And your sleeping look is adorable.」

「Yo..you saw it!」

「I enjoyed it thoroughly.」

Blushing, Arisu keeping shouting

「Please forget it!」while hitting my head. And I remained sitting.

The reason why I was sitting, is because my legs are so numb that I cannot stand up.

…… After returning to the real world, will my legs no longer be numb? It should be. Even if you get ample rest in this world, once you return to the real world you will still be as tired.

So, even if you get injured in this world, once you return to the original place, the wound will heal? Then, if you use magic in this world? I have many things that I want to experiment, but these have to be put aside.

We have got to return to the battlefield which we fought with the orcs.

We have to leave this time-stopped room, and return to the vicious world.

「Kazu-senpai, should I raise my Heal Skill Rank?」

Arisu had leveled to level 3. Spear Skill Rank 2, Heal Skill Rank 1.

Using the newly obtained 2 points, although it cannot be used to raise Spear Skill, but it can be used to raise Heal Skill to Rank 2. But……

「No, I feel that saving it is better.」

I said so.

「Just by raising Spear Skill Rank 1 to 2, you can easily defeat the orcs, if you raise it by 1 more Rank, to Rank 3, then you maybe able to deal with the situation of being surrounded by orcs.」

「That is all due to Kazu-senpai's support magic.」

The effect of Support Magic is indeed good, because due to the rise in physical ability, Arisu could obtain the upper hand in fight with the orcs.

Because of this, to continue to maintain such a situation, I feel that she should raise Spear Skill as a priority. I told my thoughts to her.

「Then I will follow your words.」

Arisu agreed..... No, she agreed to follow my thinking, and sat in front of the computer.

She breathed in deeply.

「Let's return.」

「Okay.」

We are about to return to the battlefield which is like hell. The killings are about to begin again.

Arisu pressed the confirm button.

In the next second, we are back to the lounge of the Cultivating Centre.

The Cultivating Centre is full of an odor that makes one feel like vomiting.

Arisu look another peek at the naked body of the girl who was violated by the orcs before being killed and shook her head, before turning to look at me.

I walked a few steps into the lounge, and surveyed the empty balcony at level 2.

The sounds of rushing footsteps could be heard from level 2, it could be that the orcs on level 2 have discovered that there are intruders.

There are 2 paths linking to level 2 from the lounge, situated at the left and right side of the lounge respectively.

「Arisu, if there are orcs coming from the left side, you will take care of it. I will think of ways to deal with the right side with the Puppet Golem.」

「Yes!」

It will be bad if we are surrounded by enemies. Arisu and I reached the bottom of the left and right side of the stairs respectively.

Taking a look up, we only saw 2 orcs swaying their fat bodies, on the way down the stairs. But because the stairs are too narrow, hence they can only walk in line.

Good chance. I ordered the Puppet Golem to deal with the orcs, and at the same time ran towards Arisu's direction.

Arisu stood at the left side of the stairs, waiting for the 2 orcs to come down.

「Right side also have 2! We will deal with this side first!」

While saying so, I chanted《Summon Puppet Golem》

The second Puppet Golem appeared behind Arisu.

「《Keen Weapon》,《Physical Up》,《Mighty Arm》」

I used magic to strengthen the Puppet Golem, and signaled to Arisu.

Current MP/ Maximum MP = 7/21

My MP is almost finished. I wished to preserve the MP left, and use them on Support Magic. The battle, can only depend on the current battle strength.

「Arisu!」

「Yes, I am attacking!」

Arisu took a step back, and stood beside the newly summoned Puppet Golem. One of the orcs could not wait and jumped down from the stairs, wielding its sword at Arisu……

The Puppet Golem took a step forward, and blocked the attack with the shield.

The puppet nearly fell over, but in the end it hung on.

Good, you did great, my puppet. Do your best. I cheered for it while clenching my sweaty fist. All I can do is only cheer.

On the other hand, the orc whose attack was blocked, lost its balance more severely than the Puppet Golem. Arisu striked at it, and the metal spearhead pierced into the orc's belly.

The orc retreated shakily……

The Puppet Golem's rod hitted the orc's head.

The orc fell down, no longer moving.

The other orc seeing this, was in a rage.

It came down from the stairs, wielding its sword and rushing towards Arisu.

Arisu quickly put some distance between the orc, and hid behind the Puppet Golem.

The Puppet Golem's shield once again blocked the orc's attack.

Arisu lowered her body, and using the Puppet Golem's body as an axis, and spinned anti-clockwise.

The orc could not catch her presence for a second.

This battle method was similar to just now how she dealt with the orcs in the lounge. That time she used the body of the orc she just defeated, and now she lowered herself and used the smaller Puppet Golem to block herself.

When the orc saw Arisu again, her spear has already pierced the pig-man's throat who did not have time to protect itself.

Arisu's moves are still as mesmerizing. She uses her brain when fighting—— not just completely relying on Skills, always taking the most appropriate actions to give her foes the fatal blow. Perhaps she has the special combat talent? Arisu looked at me who was surprised for a second, before running to the right stairs which the 1st Puppet Golem is defending desperately. I quickly tried to catch up to Arisu.

The 2nd Puppet Golem also followed behind me.

Due to Arisu's efforts, the other 2 orcs on the right stairs also quickly died.

I leveled up.

We are sent to the white room.

Ah, seems that after defeating these orcs, the experience was just enough for me to level up to level 4.

Then again, there is nothing much to do, because I cannot rank up Skills, nor is there a need to reorganize strategies.

Arisu and I once again confirmed our action plans in the white room.

「First send the Puppet Golem to scout the rooms on level 1. Then go to level 2, and search for the remaining orcs.」

Since we cannot predict when the enemy will assault us.

Hence the role of the bait, is done by the Puppet Golems.

Arisu is the main force. If it was a drama, then I will go up to scout first, then say to her「It's up to you sensei.」, then she will leave behind the words「Leave it to me」, then stroll towards the battlefield——Ah~ But an Arisu who will say「Leave it to me」seems a bit irritating.

「Even if we discovered surviving students, we must also put exterminating the orcs as a priority.」

「Yes.」

「If we meet any situation that we cannot handle, then we must run away without hesitation. Understand?」

「Even if we discovered surviving students……?」

「As long as we are still alive, we can come back. If we die, then nobody can save them.」

「..... I understand.」

Arisu nodded unwillingly.

「Okay, then let's go.」

I pressed the confirm button.

So we returned to the lounge of the Cultivating Centre once again.

First we search every classroom on level 1, in the end we did not see any signs of orcs.

In this period, orcs on level 2 walked down the stairs.

But, they are quickly dealt with by Arisu.

The orcs that came from level 2, amounted to 3.

「It should be okay. Let's head up.」

I let the Puppet Golem walk in front, and carefully walked up to level 2.

It was silent around the vicinity at the level 2 balcony.

「.....There shouldn't be any orcs here.」

I walked a few steps in the corridor without any suspicions.

Just as I was about to walk past an intersection, I carelessly thought that there was nothing, and just glance there.

「Danger, Kazu-senpai.」

Hearing Arisu's screams, I turned my head to look again.

An orc happened to show itself at the end of the corridor, and threw an axe at me at the same time.

Shit.

I could not react all of a sudden, my body was frozen. It is just like when crossing a road intersection, then seeing a car suddenly rushing out, then you will freeze on the spot.

This is a human reflex. It is said in the army, the soldiers will keep training, get the habit, and completely removing this sort of reflex that is not beneficial to survival.

Of course, I am not a soldier. If you insist, I am just a high school student who is not apt at sports.

The axe that the orc threw, is about to hit my head.

In my eyes, all of these seems like slow motion.

Suddenly, my body fell to the side. When I discovered it was actually Arisu who rushed over and push me down, I have already fallen onto the ground.

A painful groan was heard from the girl who tried to suppress the pain. I raised my head, only seeing Arisu pressing against her shoulder that is full of blood. It could be that the axe grazed it.

The orc rushed over. I quickly ordered the 2 Puppet Golems to intercept.

Arisu also immediately raised her spear, heading to support.

The orc was immediately wounded fatally.

Arisu leveled up.

In the white room.

「Why do you save me, Arisu?」

「What do you mean by why……」

Arisu had a face of confusion while looking at me.

That is true, being questioned by someone whom you saved, anyone would think「What is wrong with this fellow」.

「In my heart, the thought of『I have got to save him』appeared, then my body automatically rushed out.」

「Because of this thought, you almost died…… No, sorry, you saved me, how could I say this. I was too much, please forget those words.」

「Yes, yes.」

I took a deep breath. Just what am I angry about? Why am I so angry with Arisu? Perhaps it is because Arisu saved me with a selfless heart.

Defeating this orc, the clean-up battle of the Cultivating Centre should be almost done.

To her, even without me, she should be able to deal with it alone.

But yet she stepped out, and saved me. In the viewpoint of profit and loss, this is a complete loss.

But, why can she do such a self-sacrificing move? I clearly know what is the answer.

Because her act of saving me, is not based on profit or loss or a result from logical thinking.

I had suspected her. I had thought of it before, if she is actually lying to me, and even those blur looks were all just an act. If each of her moves has an objective behind it? It is really stupid. She had decided to save me from the start, because she is such a person.

I suddenly felt that I am very despicable. No, actually, I am a despicable, filthy and cowardly person. I had just decided that no matter what I will survive.

Even so, looking at Arisu, I……

「What is wrong?」

My sight accidentally crossed with a girl whose face was full of doubts.

A sharp pain came from my chest. Not knowing why, I silently looked away.

I quickly find an excuse, and answered Arisu who had a doubting look.

「If everything is fine then it is good.」

「……Hmm, I am fine.」

The wound on Arisu's shoulder, can be healed with《Heal》, but now there should not be a need to raise the Rank of Healing Magic.

Hence, Arisu raised her Spear Skill to Rank 3. With this, she does not need me even more.

It should be like this.

Arisu: Level 4 Spear Skill 2→3／Healing Magic 1 Skill Point 4→1

Chapter 13: Survivors

Arisu and I have both leveled to level 4. First we used magic to heal Arisu's wound.

Arisu used magic 3 time to heal the wound on her shoulder.

We maintained high alert at the surroundings again, and investigated the classrooms on level 2. A unique stench came out from a classroom with its door opened.

That is a stench mixed with orc's body odor and semen.

I made Arisu who is slightly hesitate wait at the door, and went in alone to scout the interior of the classroom.

There are 3 completely naked girls on the floor, covered in a viscous white fluid. Among them, one of their hands shook, and the eyes among her messy bangs began to open as though she felt that it is troublesome.

「Alive! There is still one more person who is alive!」

Hearing my voice, Arisu rushed into the room. She ran over to the surviving girl and carried her up. After confirming that the other party still have a response, she then relaxed from the bottom of her heart.

When Arisu parted the girl's hair, then I realised…

「You are… Shiki-san?」

「Gaya…san?」

Shiki Yukariko. She is my classmate, and also the vice-chairman of our class.

The feelings that I had towards most of the people in the High School section, if I were to say it nicely, it would be「All of you should go and die, bastards」.

The feelings I had for her is the same. Until now.

She did not participate in bullying me, but she did after all leave me in the lurch.

In reality, anyone who goes again that fellow, no matter who, will have the same result as me. From this point of view, she is a person of reason. She just calmly avoided the mine with her cold look.

Saying so, this cannot become the reason why I did not hate her.

「I see. So Gaya-san saved me.」

「You should be thanking Arisu, she was the one who wanted to come and save the people, moreover…」

「Wait, Kazu-senpai!」

Arisu stared at me harshly.

「Pl..please get out!」

「Ah, that's right.」

Perhaps I am already immune to such a miserable scene.

Although it is already too late, but I still shifted my sight away from the naked body of my classmate quickly. Ah, her breasts are big. So she just seems skinny from her usual clothes—— I am actually thinking about such stupid stuff.

「I will check out the other classrooms.」

After leaving these words, I turned around and left quickly.

当时我有看了一眼教室外的门牌，上面写著「茶道社休息室」。

That time I did look at the label outside the classroom. it wrote「Tea Ceremony Society Resting Room」.

So she is from the Tea Ceremony Society. I remembered Arisu saying that, other than them, today the people from the Tea Ceremony Society are also conducting club activities. Perhaps because there aren't any tatami rooms that the Tea Ceremony can use in the High School Section, so they have to go over to the Middle School Section for their activities every time.

Then, the 2 other bodies on the side, should also be members of the Tea Ceremony Society. But knowing this now, didn't have much meaning…I remembered the lesson from just now, and let my bodyguards, the Puppet Golems take the vanguard and began scouting.

I discovered 2 corpses belonging to 2 guys in the Middle School in another classroom. Their heads have been splitted open by swords, and their shoes are covered in mud, seemingly escaping from the outside into the Cultivating Centre. I believe the situation at that time was very urgent, if not they would not have ran into this place where there is nowhere to escape to.

One of them seems to be preparing to open the window, his hand is still on the window's lock. I opened the window, fulfilling his last wish. Fresh, but slightly chilly wind blew in.

It seems to be night soon, we have to hurry up and finished what we needed to do before night falls.

I went past the level 2 balcony, and circled around to the opposite of the classroom where Arisu and the others are at.

One of the doors is tightly shutted, and the stairs to the 3rd story, should be behind this door.

I tried twist the doorknob, the door seems to be locked.

「The information that Arisu provided is indeed correct.」

I mumbled to myself, and this moment I discovered that there are sounds on the other side of the door.

「Oi, is there anyone?」

I began to think panically.

Is it the orcs? No, it can't be. If it's the orcs, then after opening the door they would not doing such a troublesome thing like closing the door.

Then...

「Are you survivors? The orcs over this side have all been defeated, it is already safe.」「Really...」

A scared female voice came over from the other side of the door. I skipped the process, only saying「A lot of things happened, so me and a girl called Arisu came over here to save people」.

「Arisu!」

The girl behind the other side of the door suddenly shrieked.

「Is Arisu safe?」

「Yes, she is currently opposite helping people who are injured...」

Then again, Arisu wanted to find her friend, that is why she remembered this place.

Although why she who is willing to be bait and protect Arisu, is behind this door...

「You are... Tamaki-san?」

「Yes, I am! Thank goodness, Arisu is fine!」

The door knob is twisted with kaching kaching, but it does not open. I took the moment to order the Puppet Golem to hide, because I am too lazy to explain, and in case it made her scared, which is a troublesome thing.

「Aa— mo— Ei—tsu, Ei—tsu!」(TL note: sounds of putting in alot of effort at opening)

I thought, just by using brute force is not enough to open the door.

The girl behind the door panickedly twisted the knob, and finally opened the lock.

The door opened suddenly.

A young girl with golden twin tails rushed towards me.

Her head rammed my stomach, and I groaned in pain like a frog being stepped on.

「Ah, so..sorry!」

The girl raised her head, and panickedly looked at me who is squatting on the ground in painHer size is almost the same as Arisu, but the peaks in front of her chest seems to be slightly smaller than Arisu.

She has a pair of blue eyes that seems like the deep oceans, and a high nose, and snow-white skin.

She looks like an westerner. Ah—— Golden hair, blue eyes? She does not seem to be Japanese.

I felt confused.

「You are… Tamaki-san?」

「Hmm, yes. You are curious about my appearance? Mesmerised? I am adopted.」

Adopted. She must have gone through a lot. It seems like I shouldn't ask too much.

「And, you can call me by my name directly! Arisu's friend is my friend!」

I had initially wanted to say that「I don't think I am already friends with Arisu」, but saying it halfway, I shrugged my shoulders. Forget it, after all Arisu and I are just partners who have similar aims. No, I should say we are once partners…

As long as she saved her good friend, then Arisu will have no more reason to fight.

I introduced myself, and told her that she can call me「Kazu」.

「Arisu also called me like that.」

「I understand, Kazu-senpai!」

Tamaki said「Please take care of me」, while revealing a cheerful smile, and her twin tails swung like the ropes of a swing.

Ah, she is just like a sun, I thought so in my heart. My meaning is that she is so bright that one had to look away.

「Ah, then Arisu?」

「She is there…」

I pointed to the other side.

「But, can you wait for a while?」

「Why?」

「That… She is treating someone who is injured…」

Hearing the words「someone who is injured」, Tamaki seems to have understood the meaning of these words. The colour of her face sunk.

This is also expected. She has been waiting on the other side of this door, what had happened on level 2, she should have known. Even so, she held her breath and quietly hid here.

This is an extremely smart action. But being smart and peace in the mind is not equivalent. I believe to her, it must have been a torturous time.

「Ah, right. I have to inform the others.」

「Others? There are still other survivors upstairs?」

「Yes, we are all hiding together.」

I see, then…

Just as Tamaki turned, and was preparing to go and inform the others——A roar shook the entire building of the Cultivating Centre.

Hearing that roar from the lounge, Tamaki accidentally tripped, falling on the ground heavily. (TL note: fan service time~)

Ah, her panties is showing, and it is black. Against the school rules.

No, this is not important.

I noticed one thing. The roar—— is a challenge from the enemy. My instincts tells me that.

「Tamaki, you must close the door now. Then hide.」

I deliberately used a strong tone to say it.

「Eh~ eh~ But—— 」

「Arisu and I will think of some methods. Until you get my permission, do not open the door.」

「I..I understand!」

Turning my back towards Tamaki, then sounds of her panickedly closing the door is heard.

I took the Puppet Golem that was hidden in order not to scare the survivors, and ran to the balcony on level 2.

Next I saw Arisu also rushing out from the classroom opposite of the balcony.

I crossed eyes with her, and we nodded.

I looked out from the balcony.

And just nice I crossed eyes with the orc that looked up.

Its evil red piercing eyes that seems be locked on me.

That is an orc with a bronze coloured skin. In its hands is a giant axe that is higher than it, and it is bigger than the other orcs beside it by another size.

Elite orc can simply be used to describe it—— I thought so in my heart.

We cannot defeat it —— I had judged at that moment. That is a special orc.

It is possible that it is the leader of the orcs, and in its surroundings there are still 6 more ordinary orcs. Currently Arisu and I simply cannot handle an opponent with such a strong combat strength.

Under the instructions of the elite orc, the ordinary orcs stepped onto the stairs.

Each flight of stairs has 2, a total of 4 orcs. I quickly ordered the 2 Puppet Golems to stay at the stairs, preparing for battle.

While Arisu held the spear, and waited at the other stairs.

The battles at the 2 stairs are about to start.

Because the stairs are very narrow, hence the Puppet Golem can fight with the orc in a 2 on 1 manner. If it is just 1 Puppet Golem, even if Support magic is cast on it, its battle prowess will still lose to the orc. But if it is like this, 2 on 1, then they can have the advantage in battle.

The injuries of the orc in front it getting worse, but the orc standing at the back has no method of advancing, hence completely useless. Arisu stood at an advantageous location where she could attack from the top, and hence she dealt with the 2 orcs in an instant.

Following the flow, she ran down.

...Wait, wait!

「No, Arisu! Not now...」

I was slower by a beat, Arisu had only gone halfway, the bronze orc used the axe to hack down the support of the stairs. The entire building shook vigorously, and I had to quickly grab onto the railings.

Such shocking power.

The stairs that Arisu was on, collapsed. Arisu shriek, and lost her balance, rolling to level 1. Luckily the 2 orcs that ran toward Arisu also fall to the ground due to the collapsing of the stairs, so I guess it can be considered a good thing among the misfortune.

When Arisu fall on to the ground, she landed on her back, or perhap the impacted place did not affect her much, and she stood up immediately. But the stairs besides her has been completely destroyed.

The bronze elite orc who has overwhelming destructive power stood in front of Arisu.

「Ah, ah, ahah...」

Scared, Arisu held the spear and kept retreatingElite orc used its axe to strike at her.

Arisu retreated in panic, and luckily under the assistance of support magic, her body is very light, and hence avoided that strike, but...

Just from the air pressure, it managed to blow her frail body away.

Arisu was slammed against the wall.

Elite orc had wanted to continue attacking, but Arisu is on the ground, groaning, seemingly unable to move.

「Arisu, roll to the side!」

Arisu heard my instructions and rolled, avoiding the attack from the giant axe.

The giant axe smashed the floor, scattering cement everywhere.

Not good, not good, not good. What is with this fellow, he is completely different from the other orcs.

The level of the opponent has risen too much. What kind of lousy game is this.

There is only 1 point that is advantageous to us, and that is that Arisu who had just stood up, is facing the main door of the lounge, which is the exit.

Now she is able to escape. I looked at the side of the classroom, the window that was opened to ventilate the room was still opened, if there is only 1 person then he should be able to get through it.

「Arisu! I will send the Puppet Golem to deal with that side, take the chance and escape!」

「Eh~ But——」

「I will jump out from the window! As long as we are still alive, we can return to save them!」

Shiki Yukariko should still be in that room. Then, what we are doing is equivalent to ignoring her when she had thought that she is finally safe. But, who can care that much.

The most important thing is that Arisu and I must survive.

Luckily, Tamaki has already locked the door, and hid in level 3. If she is lucky, she will not be discovered. And Arisu will not know that Tamaki is still alive.

If she knew, perhaps it will be hard to convince her, so as long as she is in the dark…

At this moment, the 2 Puppet Golems managed to defeat 1 orc with much difficulty, and I called the one that has lighter injuries to my side, and let it jump down.

The Puppet Golem stepped on the defenseless orcs on level 1, and attacked the elite orc.

Although I could only buy a little time. But, that is enough, the most important thing is that it gave Arisu and I enough time to escape.

「Escape, NOW! Gather at the usual place!」

I shouted towards the balcony, and ran towards the classroom beside.

I forcefully squeezed my body through the window.

And jumped down.

I landed from the 2nd story, and the impact from landing numbed my legs completely. I groaned in pain.

My ankles could be twisted, but if my movements are too slow, I could be caught up by the enemies.

I furrowed my eyebrows, and ran towards the forests, dragging along my legs which are in pain.

A opening trumpet music rang in my ears.

「You leveled up!」

I heard a neutral voice saying so, and was immediately transferred to the white room.

「Ah… Huh?」

I could not understand the situation this instant, and could only stand there blankly.

If it is abouting leveling, I remember there is still…yes, as long as all the orcs other than the leader are defeated, it will just nice be enough for me to level up.

But Arisu should have already escaped. She should not have time to defeat the orcs.

Arisu appeared before me.

She is covered with wounds, there are scratches on her hands and legs and she is bleeding everywhere. She used her hands to press on her flank, only seeing her shirt around that area slowly turning red.

Arisu raised her head and looked at me, revealing an unnatural smile.

「I did not successfully escape. I lied, sorry.」

Arisu laughed powerlessly while saying so.

Chapter 14: The reason why Arisu and I failed

I stared at Arisu dumbly.

Why can't she escape in time? What shall we do next—— I thought.

「It is not Kazu-senpai's fault.」

Arisu shook her head, attempt to comfort me who had stiffened up. While using magic to heal the injury on her flank, she used the other hand to scratch the back of her head. Even if she use magic now, once she leave this room, everything will reveal back.But yet she still used magic, this means that the pain from the wound must have been unbearable for her.

「Once I thought about if we just left Shiki-senpai like that, what if… then my legs just stopped.」

This sort of thinking is not logical—— My numbed brain thought so. Shiki Yukariko is not even Arisu's friend, she just happened to be in the same building only.

Before this, they probably have not spoken before?

Arisu should not have any obligation that she must save her?

For me it is the same. She had once left me in the lurch, even though she knew I suffered bullying in the class, but yet she pretended to not have seen it.

What is wrong with abandoning such a person? This is only karma that she deserved, isn't it? Now an unbeatable enemy has appeared before us, escaping immediately is the most correct choice.

It should be, we can only choose to escape.

No.

I suddenly realise, I should stand in her shoes and think.

From Arisu's view, Shiki Yukariko is my classmate. Arisu perhaps thought that she is my friend, or someone who is important to me.

I have always hid my feelings toward Shiki from Arisu, and that is the result of me trying to maintain a good image in front of Arisu.

I don't wish to let Arisu know about my ugly heart. I do not want her to know how miserable I am.

In the end, Arisu…

She just slightly hesitated. And in that instant, it changed her fate.

「It's my fault.」

Arisu said while laughing at herself.

「That time I thought… At least I can save 1 person. But… before saving Tamaki, I shouldn't die.」

「Tamaki-san… is hiding on level 3. She is fine. She should have already closed the door again, and hiding properly inside.」

「I see… That's great, then I am relieved.」

Arisu laughed with a「hehe」.

「Relieved… What does that mean?」

「Ah, right, right. Sorry, Kazu-senpai… I will leave Tamaki to you, please save her. This is my… last wish.」

「What is this last wish… What is going on!」

「I feel that I could not be saved anymore. I have defeated all the leftover ordinary orcs, but now the orc leader is blocking the door… With my injured state, it should be impossible for me to escape.」

How could you still smile? I bit my lip tightly.

Why do you look at me with a shy look? I clutched my fist tightly.

You are about to die. And it will definitely be the worst and most painful way for a girl to die.

「Sorry, Kazu-senpai. The reason you shared your experience points with me, is because you feel that I can be of help, right?」

「Ah… yes.」

「In the end I did not help much, and just took away Kazu-senpai's experience meaninglessly.」

There is no such thing, how could you not be of any help. Fighting with you is definitely not a waste of experience.

And, the most important thing is…

I walked towards Arisu, and tightly hugged her slender body without any care.

「Don't say such things.」

「But——」

This moment, the instant that I know that I am going to lose her.

I felt a pain in my chest, a pain as though it is tearing me apart.

I only felt a strong intense feeling surging out from my heart. I want to hug her. I have a desire, to hold her tightly, making her mine. But she is about to disappear into a place that I can never reach, making me feel despair.

「So painful.」

Arisu rejected weakly.

I placed my face on Arisu's cheeks.

Her face is wet, the tears that came out has wettened her cheeks.

「I don't want.」

Arisu whispered.

「I don't want to die. I do not want to be violated by that sort of creature and then killed.」

She said breathlessly.

「I am so stupid. Kazu-senpai has already found Tamaki for me, but I… What am I doing.」

I could not say anything, I could only hug Arisu tightly.

「I wish to be like this forever, Kazu-senpai, finally, hugging me like this. But we are about to be separated, I don't want that.」

「Arisu, you…」

I moved my body slightly back, and looked at Arisu. Her face is covered in tears, looking very awful. This awful-looking girl opened her lips, and lightly said「I love you」.

I pressed my lips onto her pink lips. We kissed very lousy, our teeth even knocked onto each other.

But, Arisu desperately sucked at my lips. Our tongues entangled, and our saliva mixed together. We forgot that we are sucking on each other's lips. Holding our breaths, continuously kissing, until the very last limit.

This is probably like the suspension bridge effect. Being in an intense situation for a long period of time, and the only person that she can rely on is me, and it is also the same for me. In this whatever another world, whatever orc, a situation where one could go mad, it is because of her, that I could remain sane.

So what. Now I desperately wanted her.

Even if it's an impulse, her passionate confession, the value of it will not decrease.

Our lips separated, and there is a still a strand of saliva between us.

I stared at the blushing Arisu. This girl in front of me, crying until her eyes are swollen and wounded everywhere.

我决定了

I have decided.

I set my determination, I wanted to protect, I must protect her until the last moment. This risk is nothing. The me of now, has found the target that I want to protect.

「Arisu.」

「Ye..yes!」

「I want to protect you.」

Arisu stared at me dumbfounded.

This sort of blur act is very adorable, I could not help but feel my heart beat faster.

I want to hug her again, but, there is no need to do it now. After I successfully saved her, I can hug her to my heart-content.

「I have already decided, I am going to go save you. So you must win for me.」

「Huh~ wh..what?」

「Now I will start to think about the strategy. I know the method that I thought of will be ridiculous, but even so, you must still win.」

「……huh.」

「If you did not win, then you and I shall die together.」

「How can this be! How can I drag Kazu-senpai into this…」

「If you do not want that, then listen to my orders and move, then obtain victory.」

Arisu stared at me without blinking, but that is only for a short period. She quickly showed a suspecting look, as though saying「What the heck is this guy saying」.

She pouted with a「Mu——」.

Finally, she realised my expression is serious, and sighed.

「It's all my fault, there is no need for Kazu-senpai to clean up my mess.」

「There is, because I like you.」

「Ah~ Hmm, this~」

Arisu blushed, and looked at me with her big eyes…

Then, she smiled hesitantly.

「...Yes.」

「There is no way to control liking someone. I want you, and I don't want to hand you over to orcs, those kind of creatures. So I have decided now, that I will gamble my own life. Do you have an opinion on that!」

「Wh..why are you getting angry due to being embarrassed! Please calm down!」

「The girl that I like is about to be violated, who can calm down!」

「Wah, please don't say out such words so loudly!」

Arisu danced around panicky. Hahaha, that is so stupid. There is only 2 of us here.

「To be honest, I want to push you down here.」

「Wah, wah ah.」

「But I will not do that, doing this does not satisfy even 0.001%. I shall preserve the unsatisfied feeling to go and save you.」

「...Somehow this doesn't feel romantic.」

Arisu rolled her eyes at me. The Arisu that uses such a look at look at me, is extremely adorable.

「You don't wish to be pushed down by me?」

「It is not that I don't want, but please take note of your words!」

Arisu began to shout unlike her usual self, and then she realise the hidden meaning behind her words. And then she began shouting「Ah」, fanatically.

「Er,, this, th..that, ah~」

「Anyway, I will go and save you! So before I get there, you must survive! Understand?」

「Ah—— well, I understand... I will do my best. But to be honest, it is hard.」

「Just let me think of the method.」

Arisu gave an exasperated expression.

At this moment, I suddenly understood why some coaches like to focus on「Perseverance」. Because when there is already nothing we can do, so we can only depend on perseverance.

I sat in front of the laptop and thought. Is there any way? Now what can I do? What are the possibilities? All the answers lies within the computer.

The current abilities are…

Kazuhisa: Level 5 Support Magic 2/ Summon Magic 2 Skill Points 4

I can rank up all of my skills that I have, if I wish to get a new skill, I can also raise it to Rank 2.

Though it maybe so…

That bronze-skinned orc—— elite orc, is an enemy that is completely different from any of the orcs that we have met. Its body is very big, and it has the strength to destroy the stairs and support. Other than that, from how it blocked Arisu's way, its brain should also be pretty decent.

It is an opponent that Arisu, with Spear Skill Rank 3, cannot handle.

The truth is that when Arisu's Skill Rank increase, her combat ability increase tremendously. If you considered that orc's size, perhaps their rank does not have that much of a difference.

Hmm, at least just now the Puppet Golem managed to hold it off a while, so I guess it should not be that strong until we cannot handle it.

The biggest problem is, because we suffered a surprise attack, hence we are completely unprepared.

The next problem is, due to the continuous battles, our abilities diminished very fast. Especially my MP, it is almost finished.

…How much did my MP recover? Just now we check the level 1 classroom and level 2. The whole process took about 10minutes. So as to say, my MP is probably around 11 or 12?

Now there is no room for mistakes. Just to be safe, I will take it that MP is 11.

If I summon 1 Puppet Golem, then MP is left 7.

Yes, its severe. Very severe.

I can feel that, the 2 Puppet Golem that I summoned previously, has already been destroyed by the enemy. Because the link between us are broken.

The only familiar left that I can control is the crow. But in this situation, will the crow be of use?

Perhaps it can take away the elite orc's attention for a few seconds. In such a situation, just a few second it will be very precious. If so, then I will order the crow to do its best.

Other than that—— I continued to think.

Which Skill should I rank up? Or perhaps, which new skill should I get? In this case, there is no need for me to consider about the future. Even if it is a skill that there is no chance to use in the future, it is fine. I should also protect Arisu until this extent.

I began to enter questions related to skills in the laptop. I can feel the sights of Arisu on my back. That is a feel mixed with anticipation and unease.

Among them, includes feelings of「it is indeed too much to ask for」, and the small hope of「perhaps he can really find the solution」.

I felt a tremendous pressure on me. To decrease this pressure, I could only continue to ask question…

Finally——

「Found it.」

I lightly said.

I found a chance for survival. A really small chance.

But, if we use this method…

Perhaps we can win.

Perhaps both Arisu and I can survive.

I turned toward Arisu, and explained to her the battle plan.

「Everything is based on the timing.」

「But, what if we failed…」

「Then we will both die.」

Arisu swallowed her saliva, and clutched her fist. Now it is her who is feeling the pressure.

「I am scared.」

「I am more scared of losing you, Arisu.」

「Ye..yes.」

「We must obtain victory.」

「…Yes!」

That's right, this reply is good. Arisu nodded strongly, and hence I chose my skill.

I pressed the confirm button that determines our fate.

Arisu and I returned to our original place at the same time.

… The battlefield where we will fight to the end.

Kazuhisa: Level 5 Support Magic 2→3/ Summon Magic 2 Skill Points 4→1

I returned to the back of the Cultivating Centre.

Just 1 second before I am about to dash into the woods.

I looked back, and saw the sunset dyeing the entire building orange. Until just now, I was worried that the orcs may come chasing, but now I know this thing will not happen.

Because Arisu has already killed all the ordinary orcs.

Because she has stopped, blocking the front, protecting me.

The crow familiar flew over, and landed on my shoulder. I brought the only creature that I can summon and ran. Going around the Cultivating Centre, and back to the main door. As fast as possible. I ran with all my strength.

「《Physical Up》」

I cast another magic to increase my speed. My support magic is now Rank 3, theoretically my speed should be slightly faster than just now.

Now, no matter how small the difference, it is important.

I ran forward. The ankle that I twisted was in much pain. But, heck it. All I wanted to do, is to move forward.

This moment, Arisu is fighting against a strong opponent alone. She challenged the high wall of despair courageously, and at the same time waited for my reinforcement.

I want to save her. I want to hold her tightly again.

I prayed sincerely.

No, not pray.

We must win.

Using these hands, these legs, using all the skills that we obtained, the power of Arisu and I.

I turned at the bend, although I am slightly dizzy, but I maintained the same speed and ran.

I heard the clashing of swords, that is the sound of the intense fight between Arisu and the elite orc.

She is fighting, Arisu is still working hard. This gave me unlimited courage.

I used all my strength, and ran past the corner.

The opened main door came to view.

I used all my remaining strength and ran to the door.

And looked inside.

Arisu just dodged the blow from giant axe of the elite orc, losing her balance. At this state, she cannot avoid the next blow.

「Arisu!」

Arisu at the position where she is about to fall, turned and looked at me, her expression has obviously became brighter.

I sent the crow familiar towards them.

I ordered the crow to attack the elite orc's face, although it can only restrain it, but as long as it gains us a few seconds of precious time.

Indeed, the elite orc swung its hand, annoyed, and chasing the crow that interrupted the battle. The body of the crow was smashed to the side, onto the wall.

I felt the link broke, the blow from the elite orc had defeated the crow.

But that is fine.

「《Summon Puppet Golem》」

I summoned the Puppet Golem and sent it to attack the elite orc. This is also another restrainment. I ran behind the Puppet Golem, slowly approaching the big body of the elite orc. The strong intense aura made one feel like stopping, and running away.

I desperately suppressed my emotion of fear, and focused my sight on Arisu who has fallen on the ground. My sights met with Arisu's, and her happy expression fills my heart with courage.

This moment, I feel that even if I face off against 100 elite orcs, I would not be afraid.

The Puppet Golem courageously attack the elite orc, and the elite orc used its chest to block the weak attack by the pole of the Puppet Golem, completely undaunted.

After all I did not use any support magic on the Puppet Golem, and it seems that just based on the original strength of the Puppet Golem is not enough.

But I had decided to let it be sacrificed, so there is no choice…

Thanks to this piece, we gain the precious few seconds.

I reached Arisu, and placed my hand on her weak shoulder.

「《Haste》」

Arisu's body began to glow in a golden light. She was shocked, and looked at her hands and legs.

She is covered with wounds, and her clothes are tattered, her skirt was nearly all gone, and her panties was completely exposed.

But, now her body is full of energy. That power is given by me to her.

「You can do it.」

「Yes!」

Arisu nodded, and stood up quickly. In this instant, the elite orc used the axe and chopped down on the Puppet Golem's head, smashing it into smitterting.

The bronze-skinned elite orc turn over here. It looked at Arisu and me, revealing its teeth evilly, with a grin.

Arisu and I stared at this creature, and smile cruelly together.

「Battle normally at first, and wait for my signal, is it okay?」

「Okay!」

There is no need for any detailed discussion, because we have already did it in the white room.

Arisu held the spear, kicked off from the ground, rushing at the elite orc.

The elite orc stood its ground, waiting for Arisu. It raised its giant axe, probably thinking of giving Arisu a strike from the top.

This fellow no longer has any intentions of violating Arisu. As for this, I have many thoughts on it, on one hand I am relieved, but on the other hand I felt that it's a pity, since it would not be unprepared...

Arisu is my woman, how can I hand it to this creature who is all brawn.

The elite orc did not dodge the strike from the metal spear in Arisu's hands.

No, it should be unable to dodge. Because Arisu's attack is much faster than the elite orc had expected.

That is the effect brought by my magic.

After I raised Support Magic to Rank 3, I obtained a new magic—— 《Haste》. Unlike 《Physical Up》,《Haste》 can also make the target's entire movement faster, not only striking speed, even the movement speed will be faster.

Adding to the fact that Arisu raised her Spear Skill to Rank 3, hence she can demonstrate a strong attack that is close to Rank 4.

The spear stabbed deeply into the elite orc's chest, and blue blood sprayed.

Arisu quickly leave elite orc's side, and using movements that are more nimble than just now, she dodged the crazy counterattacks from the elite orc.

The furious orc swung its giant axe with big movements, chasing after Arisu. But Arisu used calm steps to dodge, and then stabbed again. This time the orc's blue blood sprayed out from its left shoulder.

Good, this is good, it seems to be going well. Until now it is all within the plans.

Well, when I was investigating Rank 3 Support Magic, I have already known that it will have such effects.

Then is the problem, even with using《Haste》to make Arisu's movement faster, the power that Arisu have now is still not enough. This level of attack, is not enough to deal a fatal blow.

Now Arisu is already very tired. She is covered in wounds and her abdomen is still bleeding. These wounds are taking away her strength every minute and second. It is possible that she will be the first to fall in the end.

But, I will not let such a thing happen. Although it is an elite orc, but its body structure is still the same as an ordinary orc.

Hence, their weakness must be the same.

That is the throat, as long as we pierce through its throat, it will be fine.

Arisu has already used this tactic to defeat many orcs, hence she must also know.

But she deliberately did not attack its weakness. If our strategy is discovered by the enemy, then the elite orc which used brute force to win will be alerted. If the opponent chose to use delaying tactics, then we will not have any chance at victory. Hence, she believed in me, and focused her attacks at the orc's abdomen, shoulders and legs, waiting for my instructions.

Slowly, Arisu began to show signs of tiredness. Because she is too tired, her legs seem to be no longer listening to her. The elite orc did not miss this chance, and swung its giant axe, and Arisu rolled to the side, barely dodging it. The elite orc stepped strongly on the ground, although Arisu used the spear to restrict its legs, but it still rushed over ignoring it.

Damn, I have this urge to show the trump card now.

But no. If I used the trump care now, then we will no longer have any chance at winning. From the result, I will not be able to protect Arisu.

Hence now I must endure, I must believe in Arisu. Please, Arisu!

I don't know if my prayers are answered, I saw Arisu dodge the blow from the giant axe, and rolled to the bow, and stood up.

Arisu first opened the distance, but the elite orc still rushed at her.

Arisu looked at me.

I nodded, that is now. Only now.

「Go!」

「Yes.」

Arisu also rushed toward the elite orc. Under the assistance of《Haste》, her moves are very sharp, as though she is an arrow.

The elite orc stopped, and swung the axe. From this situation, her head will be split opened by that giant axe. But Arisu ran forward without fear.

The elite orc gave an evil smile, as though victory is in its hands.

At that instant——

「《Reflection》」

I cast the magic.

This sort of magic that does not require touching the target, is very rare in Support Magic.

It is a magic that is only effective to the companions near the caster.

This is a new magic that I learnt after raising it to Rank 3. The effect is…

A piece of rainbow-colour membrane appeared before Arisu.

The strike from the elite orc landed on the membrane…

The attack power is reflected back in 180 degree, the elite orc with shocking strength is pushed back. In this moment, it is in a completely defenseless state.

Arisu did not miss this chance, even if the giant axe is near her, she did not hesitate. She believed in me, until the very last moment.

Now, the girl used a impressive stance and strike out the spear.

The metal spear pierced deeply into the elite orc's throat.

Fresh blue blood poured out like a waterfall.

That is a blow that she put all her strength into. The spearhead of the spear pierced the bone and flesh of the elite orc. and then exited out from the back of the neck. The skill system maybe like a game, but what is happening is definitely not a game. No matter human or monster, they are equal, as long as they are fatally wounded, they will die.

This is the truth that Arisu have proven a few times until now.

Hence, even though the elite orc has an overwhelming advantage, but under this blow, its life ended.

The elite orc gave out a dying cry, and it's huge body collapse, gradually disappearing.

「Ah.」

Arisu whispered.

「Level up…」

The next second, Arisu and I are sent to the white room.

Chapter 15: Testing all sorts of magic in the White Room

Our chances of winning in this battle with the elite orc is extremely low.

Even so, I decided to gamble. Because I want to save Arisu.

I have always thought that not trusting anyone is the correct choice. I have always been afraid that after trusting someone, I will be betrayed.

But compared to those fears, I was more afraid of witnessing her being violated by that sort of creature.

That is a foolhardy, illogical action, but I don't regret it.

Then I succeeded. I saved Arisu.

I am so, so happy, until I couldn't help it, hence once we are sent to the white room, I dashed to Arisu, and hugged her slender body tightly.

「Wah wah wah~ Kazu-senpai...」

Arisu gave out a「Hyaa」weird scream.

I moved back slightly, wanting to look at Arisu's face.

Arisu looked at me, blushing.

「Great. Everything proceeded as planned, that is really good.」

「Yo..you mean that, this plan is anyhow thought up?」

Arisu rolled her eyes.

「To be honest, I feel that the percentage of success is less than 3%. Everything depends on your trust in me.」

「Then, of course we will win.」

Arisu beamed.

「Because I have always felt that I am very fortunate for I believed in Kazu-senpai.」

「You... Why do you trust me so much?」

「Because Kazu-senpai has never betrayed my expectations.」

That is because you are useful to me.

I swallowed this sentence back. Because I know that, that has already become a sort of lie, to bluff myself.

Perhaps it was true in the beginning. Or perhaps it is really true. But, the reason why I saved her now is not only that.

Arisu used her moist-looking eyes and looked at me. Then she determinedly and slowly said:

「Please let me say this once. Kazu-senpai, I like you.」

I used a kiss to reply.

Arisu putted her hands around my neck, and replied me passionately.

We released each other, and I looked at Arisu again.

My partner then sat on the ground powerlessly, grinning sillily while looking at me.

「I relaxed.」

Taking a closer look, she seems even more disheveled than just now.

Not only is there a big hole on her blouse, revealing her breasts, her skirt can also only be described as tattered cloth. There are all sorts of tears on her clothes, revealing her tender skin. Other than that, her body is covered with wounds, her skin of her hands and legs are torn, oozing out blood.

I accompanied Arisu, and sat in front of her.

「It's okay… yeah right. Look at you.」

To reduce my unease, Arisu smiled. Is my expression really that worried? Perhaps it is really so.

「After all once I used healing magic, I can heal all these wounds in an instant.」

While saying so, Arisu cast《Heal》on her hands and legs. Surrounded by the blue light, Arisu's wounds gradually healed. After she used about 15 times of《Heal》. the wounds on her body are completely healed.

「With this it will be fine.」

「But, even if you healed your wounds in this room, once you return to the real world, you will once again be in the wounded state.」

「Well… That's true.」

Ah, forget it. We need to discuss our next plans, and more importantly, decide how to develop Arisu's skills.

That's right. The reason why we are in this room, is because Arisu leveled up.

The last time I leveled, was before fighting against the elite orc. The difference in experience between me and Arisu is 2 orcs' worth.

We are a 2-person party, hence the obtained experience will also be equally split. So as to say, the experience of an elite orc is worth at least 4 orcs.

No, thinking about its destructive power, defeating 4 orcs will be easier than defeating it.

Honestly speaking, I even felt that it is stronger than 10 orcs. To make it clearer, I do not even want to fight against that that sort of monster again.

Currently Arisu is level 5, Spear Skill Rank 3, Healing Magic Rank 1. There is still 3 points left in her skill points. Through Arisu's example, we have already confirmed when the rank of Spear Skill increases by one, her battle prowess will increase exponentially.

I guess, this skill system is perhaps most suited for increasing 1 skill.

But, the prerequisite is that there must be enough people in the party. Currently there are only 2 of us, so there is a need for us to handle all kinds of situations.

If one can always fight on his territory, then as long as you develop 1 skill, you will be able to wield powerful strength.

But, then one will be unable to deal with unexpected situations. Like the ambush this time, it could be said that we are at our weakest.

This time to heal her wounds from the intense battle with the elite orc, she used 15 times of《Heal》.

Last time when she healed her shoulder wound, she only used it thrice. For the wounds even earlier, I remembered it was enough to only use《Heal》once.

This is not because the effect of《Heal》got worse. From a game's perspective, it is because our HP increased as our levels increased.

In the answers from the computer, it has already revealed such information earlier. Since MP will increase, then it is not surprising that HP will increase, at that time although I did not pay much attention to this, but after experiencing it, I had an amazed feeling.

Perhaps we are already moving away from a human's basic standard. Or worse, we are slowly becoming an existence like a monster.

No, if it is not like that, then we will not be able to explain the fact why Arisu, after suffering the attack from the elite orc, could still keep her 4 limbs.

Her being safe and sound, is indeed something to be happy about…

But, just exactly what will we become in the future?

「Kazu-senpai, what is wrong?」

My expression probably looked pretty bad. Seeing Arisu with a face of doubts looking at me, I calmed the unease in my heart forcefully and smiled.

「I am thinking at your looks are quite provocative.」

「Huh? Ah, this…」

Arisu seems to only realise her looks now, she blushed, and panically covered the important parts with her hands and legs.

But Arisu, do you know? Creatures like guys, when seeing girls in a shy and panicked looks, will in fact get more excited.

「Hmm… That, but, do you want to see?」

「Emm, yes.」

I gave an embarrassed smile, and turned my head to the side. Actually I wanted to push you down—— I suppressed those heartfelt words with my gentlemanly spirit.

But, Arisu raised her head and looked at me instead, and then opened her mouth and said:

「If it's Kazu-senpai… then its fine.」

It's a shame, but I can't help but swallow my saliva.

Seeing my reaction, although Arisu shrunk her body due to embarrassment, but she still looked into my eyes.

「Ah—— you should listen carefully, Arisu. When guys hear this sort of words, they will become big bad wolves…」

Arisu reached over and held my hand, pulling me closer to her.

When I realised it, I discovered that I am already pressing on Arisu's body.

Those pink lips neared me.

We kissed.

「Where is the big wolf?」

At here.

Some time after we became one.

Through practical experiment, we have some important new discovery.

So as long as you use《Remove Pain》from Healing Magic Rank 1, even if it is the first time, it will be fine.

It is true, at the start because Arisu had felt too much pain, I nearly gave up in the middle.

But Arisu is very smart, she knew her magic inside out. She told me that it will be fine as long as she use《Remove Pain》.

In actuality, it is true. We did it pretty well. From the perspective of 2 first-timers, I felt that we had already done very well.

Another thing that I wish to specially note is that, 《Remove Pain》 only removes the effect of pain that is over the limit, and does not affect the other senses.

We also discover, as long as we stay in this white room for a long period of time, MP will also gradually recover. I had thought that my MP is already all gone, and because we need some water to clean our bodies, so I used Rank 1 Summon Magic 《Summon Water》, and attempt to make some water.

From how I am able to use a few times of 《Summon Water》, my MP should have already recovered.

According to previous experience, once we return to our original place, the MP recovered here will go back to 0. But in this white room, we can use magic without a limit.

Perhaps this place maybe very suitable for conducting experiments with magic. Actually, when I first summon the water, all of them flowed onto the ground from who know where. So I used 《Summon Cauldron》which is also Summon Magic Rank 1, and summoned a big cauldron to store the water and use it to bathe.

Looking at the figure of Arisu bathing, once again my “battle instincts” rose up. wasting my previous efforts.

Enough about that. Arisu and I used the white cloth that I summoned with Rank 2 Summon Magic 《Summon Cloth》 to cover our bodies, and leaned on the wall side by side.

「Can I ask questions about Kazu-senpai?」

「Things about me are boring you know.」

「Shiki-senpai, erm… What happened between you and her?」

Ah, hmm. Indeed it is about that.

A shock of pain appeared in my chest. Arisu discovered that my body has stiffened, and lightly hugged my shoulder.

「I don’t wish to force you. But I want to know everything about Kazu-senpai.」

Arisu said so, with her watery eyes looking at me.

…… those eyes are too much for me.

「After hearing it, you may feel quite bad.」

「Yes, even so it is fine.」

Hence, I told her everything. That despicable fellow, what that fellow did to me, why I was pushed to the point where I no longer believed in anyone, and why I dug the trap, which was for killing that fellow.

The whole class—— no the entire high school section is his ally. Even Shiki Yukariko was pressured into sinking to their level.

「Thinking about it calmly, actually I have no right to hate her. The actions she took, was natural. After all she did not have any power, and going along with the flow is natural.」

I lightly said so. While describing, I also arranged my feelings. That's right, Shiki-san is not wrong. Although I cannot fully accept it, but even so, I should not belittle her. More importantly, she has now received a deep wound, and did not need me to worsen it.

I remembered the expression she had when her eyes met mine while she was carried by Arisu.

This is my retribution—— she seems to be self-deprecating like that. Of course, I can still claim that I have the right to punish her, and also the ways to do so.

That's right, now I already have the power. If I will it, I can even exclude Shiki Yukariko from it.

「If I say I want revenge on Shiki-san, will you look down on me?」

「No, I do not have the right to look down on you.」

Arisu said so with a stern expression.

「I had thought that you would be more of a saint.」

「After listening to Kazu-senpai, I severely despise those students in the high school section, and even feel like beating them up…」

Arisu clutched her fist in front of her chest.

「I had said before that I was an obedient and quiet person in the past, right?」

「Yes, it seems so.」

「Part of the reason is because I am not good in sports. Because I was too weak, so I had to be more obedient, and low profiled. So even if someone is bullied, I can only pretend I didn't see it… I am the same as Shiki-senpai.」

Arisu said until here, and then looked at me as though she was begging for forgiveness.

「Will you look… down on me?」

I did not answer, and instead used both my hands and hugged Arisu's head, bringing her to my chest.

「Arisu did not do anything to me, so you don't need to think about anything outside your scope.」

「Yes.」

「There is no need for you to hate Shiki-san.」

「I know.」

「I will also give way. Of course that is if the other party has the will… We should give way to each other, for the future.」

「For the future… huh?」

I analysed the situation simply. This should be another world and we are the wanderers, and before us there are at least the orcs as our enemies.

We are all in a state of isolation. The only companion, is the existence that created the white room. No, actually we cannot even confirm if the owner of the room is a friend. Until now, we also do not know if there is a way to return to our original world.

If the surviving students do not work together, then we will be in danger.

「For leveling up, and to come to this room, one must at least kill 1 orc.」

「It is impossible for an average person.」

「If there is someone to assist, just like how I helped you, then it will be different. From tomorrow, I have the idea of letting the willing survivors level up just like you. Just having a skill from one of the weapon system, will help a lot during battle.」

「As long as I fight for everyone…」

「It is better for one to be able to protect himself, and we also need to take into account of the possibility of us acting separately.」

「Me and Kazu-senpai?」

「Ah, for instance if both of us go to the main building of the middle school section, then the people who are left behind…」

I see—— Arisu nodded.

「To survive, one must fight, right?」

「Yes. I wil not request for everyone, but there must be at least a few.」

I guess, the Cultivating Centre will become our base from now on. Although I do not know there are how many survivors as said by Tamaki, but if we take the necessary precautions then there won't be a need for us to worry.

That's right, tomorrow. Now the sun has already set. Although Rank 5 Support Magic has《Night Vision》— a magic that gives the ability to see in the night, but acting in the night is still too dangerous.

More importantly, both Arisu and I are exhausted, and just wanted to rest for today.

「Tomorrow we need to help the others first… Then is it better to first raise Healing Magic to Rank 2?」

「Raising Healing Magic to Rank 2… Ah I see, is it because of《Flower Coat》?」

「Yes.」

After asking the computer, we know that among Rank 2 Healing Magic, there is a magic called《Flower Coat》, which can raise the HP of the person momentarily. As for whether it is useful, it is like buying an insurance, which can place one at ease.

「We shall accumulate power like this, and slowly head to the high school section… Is that so?」

「I don't know how many survivors are there in the high school section. If that fellow is still alive… Only that fellow, I will never forgive him.」

I clutched my fist tightly.

「That, the『fellow』that you said… What is his name?」

「Ah—hmm. He is called Saso Shiba, it seems that his father is one of the directors of the school……」

Then I talked bad about that guy for a while.

「So, Arisu, you must also be careful of that guy. Hmm, Arisu?」

When I realised it, I discovered Arisu lowered her head, seemingly disturbed.

「Are you alright?」

「Ah, yes.」

Arisu raised her head in a panic, seemingly very tired. This is expected, after all she just had a death match. I believe she is tired mentally too. (TL note: who is the one to blame lol)

「I am sorry for letting you listen to my boring talk.」

「No, no… It's fine, I am okay.」

Arisu shook her head in a panic, she probably thought that she spoiled my fun. No she did not, the me of now, is already very happy just by seeing your face.

「Ah, Arisu.」

「Yes.」

「Once we leave this white room, you will return to being a virgin. So as to say, as long as we do it in this room, I can take away your first time everytime…」

「…… That……」

Arisu narrowed her eyes.

「Does making me feel pain, make you happy?」

「No, that… Although the crying Arisu is also cute, but I felt that it is not the same.」

「Why did you speak in a respectful manner?」(TL note: the I in the previous sentence was spoken in form of lowering himself. keigo as you may know)

「Erm— this, hmm—」

Arisu, seeing me beginning to mumble, sighed deeply.

Then, she raised her head and looked at me.

「If Kazu-senpai really hope so, I am willing to let you be happy, but…」

「But?」

「Please let me consider if I want to date you.」

「Ah, erm— I was too much. Sorry.」

I apologise to her. Although I felt that this was a reward in my heart,but I still apologise sincerely.

Arisu: Level 5 Spear Skill 3／Healing Magic 1→2 Skill Point 3→1

Chapter 16: Arrival of the Night

Arisu and I left the white room, and returned to the lounge of the Cultivating Centre.

There is only a blue gem in the place where the elite orc has fallen.

This seems like the magic stone in the games? Like the crystallisation of the monster's magic or something.

I picked up the gem, and placed it in my pocket. Then I turned to Arisu.

Arisu has revealed back to the state of being covered in injuries. The instant our eyes met, her face turned red, revealing a shy smile. I was embarrassed too and gave a forced smile.

Not longer after we looked at each other…

「Ah— Arisu, Kazu-senpai!」

A high pitched voice came from the balcony on level 2. Turning around, I saw Tamaki leaning out of the balcony, waving her hands strongly. Looking carefully, she is actually crying. She is sniffing and waving her hands at us at the same time.

「It's great, it's really great! Just now I heard a big sound, and then everything became quiet. I almost die worrying!」

This girl really has nerves of steel— I could not help but give a bitter smile.

What if the ones that lost were us, and the ones that survived is the elite orc?

But then again, ah, this also means she is that worried about Arisu and me. Arisu and I waved to her.

Other than Tamaki, there are still 7 more people who are hiding in level 3. And they are all students from the middle school section.

The students who died include 3 girls and the 2 guys who escaped here from the outside. The only survivor who are caught by the orcs is Shiki Yukariko. The number of survivors is actually quite a lot— The moment I said that…

「The 2 students from Year 1 are brought here, when I separated from Arisu and escaped here!」

Tamaki raised her chest and said proudly. So Tamaki and the 2 Year 1s ignored the highly dangerous level 1 which has orcs patrolling, and climbed to the nearby tree, and then threw a rope into an opened window on level 3 then directly entered the Cultivating Centre from there.

Then, the Tea Ceremony Society students who are originally on level 3 brought them into safety.

This sort of skill, even Indiana Joe will be shocked at it.

「In this place there are only girls?」

「Other than me and Tamaki, there are only students from the Tea Ceremony Society and Cooking Society.」

Arisu said so. She isn't wrong, thinking about it, the facilities in this Cultivating Centre, is a classroom targeted at girls. So it is only natural for the survivors to be girls.

Hmm— although they are students who are younger than me, but if there are guys, then I can leave the heavy stuff to them.

Other than that, a situation like a guy being surrounded by girls, is kind of uncomfortable. But if it is in a novel, it can be described as a paradise…

Ah, imaginations that are not realistic are useless. After tomorrow, I shall hope for guys who have successfully escaped.

I looked out of the window, the skies have already started turning dark, and soon it will be completely dark. But we cannot use any light, because it will be too obvious, and as long as 1 orc is attracted, we will be unable to handle it.

「Ah— Anyway we should close the main door, and then…」

Suddenly I felt a strong wave of dizziness, and kneeled onto the ground. Arisu had wanted to support me, but her body too, gave way, and limped over.

「Ah, haha, Kazu-senpai, are you okay?」

「No, Arisu are you…」

We looked at each other and smiled bitterly. It seems that once our tensed emotions relaxed, the accumulated fatigue came in at one go.

「Ah— Kazu-senpai should go and rest with Arisu. Just leave the rest to us.」

「Sorry, Tamaki. Then we will count on you.」

I shall rest slightly. Arisu and I leaned on the wall of the lounge, and I shutted my eyes.

Sleepiness came in immediately.

Once I opened my eyes, I noticed the surroundings are filled with the scent of incense used in funerals. The surroundings have a dim light, probably from candles. I see, if it's candles, then once you close the main door, the light will not escape outside.

「I lighted some incense, because it is too smelly.」

A voice came from somewhere very near me, I raised my head and saw Shiki Yukariko sitting beside me, looking at me. She is wearing gym clothes from the high school section, that is probably something that is always in the Tea Ceremony Society.

But, why is she the only one around? Seeing my confused expression, Shiki Yukariko laughed bitterly.

「Arisu told me to look after you, while she is going to bathe with Tamaki.」

I looked to the side, and Arisu who is supposed to be beside me is gone. I see— I thought so in my heart. Saying so, did they make hot water? I also wish to take a bath.

「Sorry to spoil your expectation, there is only cold water.」

I guessed so. But even if there is only cold water, that is already good enough. I am covered in sweat, mud and orc's blood, completely filthy. And I feel itchy all over, no matter whether it is a cold bath or ice-cold bath, I don't care.

But I will probably fall sick with a ice-cold bath.

「Because I have already bathe, so now I am fine.」

I see, she had bathed already, which is to say…

I remembered the scene when we first discovered her. Indeed, seeing her state, anyone will let her bathe first.

Although it is so, ah. There is time to bathe, which means this Cultivating Centre is already safe. When I am about to feel relieved, my stomach suddenly growled.

Shiki-san took a bar of Calorie Mate from her pocket and gave me.

「The smell from cooking food is very dangerous, so we can only eat this. You can eat it.」

「To me now, this is already a delicacy.」

Calorie Mate is indeed delicious, I finished it in an instant, and licked my fingers.

「Who brought this?」

「There is a food storage in the basement of this Cultivating Centre, which are emergency rations. We cleared it a bit, those rations could probably let 10 people here survived up to roughly 1 year. Other than that, there are some cans. The water in the bottles are also quite an amount, so we do not need to worry for a while. We also found some generator which uses fuel, but since it will be too noisy, so we did not use it.」

That's a smart judgement— I thought so in my heart. I am even touched by her ability to handle stuff. She had just met with that sort of tragic stuff… Her liveliness surprised me.

「Also, we moved all the corpses to the innermost classroom on level 1. We will bury them tomorrow morning. Other than that… ah, why do you keep looking at me?」

「Wah, ah, sorry.」

「Forget it, it's fine.」

Shiki-san used her hand to brush her hair behind her.

「Just saying so, I am actually just forcefully enduring it. If I don't do something, I will not be able to handle it.」

「I see… Sorry.」

「Don't apologize. If not for you, I maybe already dead, or still in midst of hell, so I am very grateful to you, thank you.」

「You should thank Arisu. When the elite orc appeared, I had intended to abandon you.」

「I heard the situation then, it is natural for you to do that. And really saying, actually it was me who have always abandoned you.」

Yes— I nodded powerlessly. She is right. By the result, I saved her, but actually that was just the development of the situation then.

The reason why she ignored me then, was the same. Well, what humans can do are only following the scenario, making the best choice.

…… there is no meaning in saying anything now.

「Don't reject it anymore, the you now is filled with power.」

「You heard about the thing on Magic and Skills?」

「Arisu told us everything. Including the white room. Although it is unbelievable, but we can only believe it now. My wounds are also healed by Arisu.」

I see, I have only gratitude to Arisu who saved me the trouble.

「So, what to do now? You can banish me out of this building, and send me to the orcs.」

「I will not do that sort of thing.」

「I know. But if you are that sort of person, I will have lesser guilt to my self-reproach.」

Yes— I expressed my agreement. So she had felt painful to her powerlessness— herself who can't do anything.

「Okay, anyway, if you are willing, can you give me a punch, and then ask you to forgive me?」

I didn't expect her to be such a simple person. I wa shocked.

「I won't beat you.」

「Ah— then at least flick my forehead.」

Shiki-san smiled as though she is pranking me, and leaned her forehead towards me.

Her shoulders are still shaking.

I understood, that she is forcing herself. Even so, she still hope that she can be strong and happy.

I laughed bitterly and lightly flicked her forehead.

「This does not hurt at all.」

「You have already experienced so much, and I do not want others to feel pain anymore.」

「Yes. You have killed many orcs, it has been tough on you.」

Actually, the one standing in the frontline is Arisu, she is the one who has it tough……

Ah, regarding that I will forget it — I thought so. But before sleeping again, I should do the stuff that should be done.

「I will go use magic to set some alarming system.」

When I just stood up, Shiki-san gave a「ekk」sound, backed away.

「Ah—— Sorry.」

「…… Sorry.」

Shiki-san shrunk her body, and looked at me, revealing an ironic smile.

「I thought I have already worked very hard……」

I did not say anything, and while keeping a distance from her, I moved to the door.

It is already completely dark outside the Cultivating Centre. I walked out, and shut the main door.

Looking up, a sky full of stars came into view.

There is no light in the surroundings, so it is natural for the stars to be so bright. Even the street lights which illuminates the dorms and the school are no longer around, making one feel fresh at the view.

I looked at the sky, the Milky Way is also beautiful……

At this moment, I discovered something. I understood why this sky look so unnatural.

「There are 2 moons……」

I mumbled to myself.

「This is indeed not the world we are originally in.」

It's another world

The strongest evidence is here. Looking at it carefully, the constellations seems different. I do not know much about constellation, so I can't say what is wrong…… But I can confirm, that the stars I have seen before is not like this.

I did not know how long I daze off. Suddenly, I remembered the reason why I came out.

「That's right, I have to use magic to strengthen our defense.」

In Rank 2 Support Magic, there is a magic called《Alert Territory》.

This magic is different from the other magic. Once you set it at a certain location, once a certain thing or person pass by, it will ring an alert that only I can hear. I thought about it, and decide to set the alert as「As long as something which exceeds the size of a kid pass the boundary around the Cultivating Centre, the alarm will sound.」

I walked around the building, and set the circle of alerting magic in the perimeter. With the size of the Cultivating Centre, I only had to go one round, and set it at 4 places.

The effective time of the magic is about 12 hours, or until I cancelled it. As long as it can last until morning then it is fine.

Finally I looked at the starry sky again.

「Why did we come to this world?」

Is there an answer to this question?

I shook my head, and returned to the Cultivating Centre.

If the orcs suddenly invade, level 1 is the most dangerous.

So all of us should sleep in level 3.

The girls slept in a big Japanese-styled room, while I slept in a small Western-styled room.

I had a bit of expectation, don't know if Arisu will sneak into my bed in the middle of the night. But I didn't have the energy to wait, once I enter the bed, I slept like a log.

I believed Arisu is also the same. She, who is in the frontline, is definitely more tired than me.

The long day ended just like that.

Then……

The second long day in another world begins.

Chapter 17: Dawn

I had a dream.

In that dream, that fellow is looking down on me who is on the ground, revealing his scorning smile.

「Stupid.」

That fellow said so.

「You can't even protect the woman you loved.」

That fellow looked to my side, I also followed his line of sight and turned.

A girl was lying on the ground. A thick spear has penetrated her body, with the spearhead stabbed into the ground.

The girl is Arisu. I lowered my head and looked, Arisu who is lying in the pool of blood has already lost the glow in her eyes.

「I was wrong.」

The pale-faced Arisu opened her mouth and spoke.

「I shouldn't have followed Kazu-senpai. Because of your decision, I—」

Ah, right. I suddenly realised it, and looked up at the fellow who is laughing at me.

So I lost to him again.

「No matter where you are, you are a useless thing, you caused her death.」

That's right, it is all because of me, that is why Arisu died. Because I made a wrong decision, so everything is ruined. Even so—

「Even so, I have already decided that I will not run. This time I will not escape.」

I stared at that fellow, and he laughed loudly…

I heard, during the olden days when there are no electricity, people would sleep once the sun sets, then wake up once the sun rises.

Because I slept too early, in the end before dawn arrives, I woke up.

Covered in sweat, I sat up on the bed, panting. I seemed to have some dream, and it's a nightmare.

「No matter what, it shouldn't have been a nightmare.」

I mumbled to myself. After all yesterday was very tragic, we are no longer able to return to our daily lives. And it has only been a day, and everything has turned into a nightmare.

The nightmare will continue today, it will not end.

I got out of the bed, and because of muscle fatigue, my body feels stiff. But recently I have been digging traps, so it can be counted as training. Arisu must have felt worse, I guess?

Once I got down, I discovered the girls have already gotten out of bed.

The air is filled with dried bonito smell. After asking, then I realise it is Shiki-san's suggestion. Although it may attract the orcs' attention, but even if they have to brave this risk, a good breakfast should be served to replenish one's strength.Although there is no gas in the gas stove in the cooking classroom, but there are portable gas stove. In such a situation, it is indeed good to have people from the Cooking Society.

Breakfast is miso soup, instant rice and instant curry.

The girls from the Cooking Society expressed their apologies that this was just a simple meal.

But it is already very good. To Japanese, curry is a delicacy. We, who are hungry, wolfed down the breakfast. Not only me and Arisu, but everyone had 2 bowl of rice.

「Today we are going to have the final battle, how can I not store some energy!」

Tamaki said so. I see, the situation that we are in now, and the reality that we must face in the future, they are all very clear about it. Thanks to the hot rice filling our stomach, we are now full of energy.

After eating breakfast, dawn has yet to arrive, so we decided to have a meeting to organise our current information and at the same time discuss our next direction.

The meeting location is the discussion room on level 3. Level 1 and 2 has been messed up by the orcs' destruction of the place, and before cleaning it up, we do not wish to use it, so it is only natural to gather at level 3.

After sitting down at the chair in the meeting room, I looked at the audience.

My eyes met with Arisu's, so I gave a smile, but there seems to be some doubts in Arisu, and then she gave an unnatural smile back.

Huh—? What is going on? I feel that we seemed to be a bit distant……

No, it should be just me. Yes, it must be because everyone is around, so she deliberately kept a distance from me.

Of course, the situation is constantly changing. Now, the phase of just the 2 of us fighting has come to an end. If we continue to just depend on just ourselves, we will not be able to survive through today. This is something that we have already confirmed in the white room.

No, if Arisu and I continue to take independent action, perhaps we can survive. But then, we will not be able to protect Arisu's good friend—Tamaki, and we won't be able to protect the lives of the 2 Year 1 that— Tamaki saved.

I mustered my spirit, and surveyed at everyone, and then said:

「I wish to confirm again, regarding the situation outside this mountain, all of you have heard it from Arisu?」

「I witnessed it.」

Tamaki answered. I asked her, what does that mean?

「You can see from the rooftop.」

「See what?」

「The plains.」

Ah, I see— I could not help but gave a shocked sound. The rooftop of this building is taller than the woods, hence it must be able the other side of the mountain clearly.

「Because evacuating is very boring, so I ran to the rooftop to see the situation in the surroundings. I was shocked. The scenery outside is different from the usual.」

「What do you feel about it?」

「Ah— it feels that we came to a game world.」

Tamaki's expression of it, is more direct than mine.

Game world, hmm, with orcs, and such plains, coupled with the scene of huge birds taking away people.

Not caring if using the term「Game World」that is used to describe the scenario is correct, anyway, they seem to have grasp the situation we are in.

This is not Earth, but another world.

「And, last night I looked up, and discovered that there is 2 moon in the sky.」

「Ah, yes.」

「The constellations are completely different too.」

「You know about constellations?」

「Arisu knows.」

I turn towards Arisu, and Arisu nodded unwillingly.

「I like mythology. 」

「Just like chuunibyou that sort of feeling?」

「Chuunibyou?」

Arisu tilted her head in confusion. Oh shit, I accidentally said something very hikikomori. I looked at the surroundings, and discovered a few girls snickering. Tamaki also gave a smirk smile, seeing her golden ponytails shaking.

Ah— damn. Forget it, I shall not care and return to the main topic.

「Ah, then everyone agrees and understand that this is not Earth.」

The girls nodded, and some of them even revealed an expression that seems to be almost crying. That can't be helped. If crying can solve the problem, then even I would want to cry. More importantly, why am I chairing the meeting?

Ah, this too can't be helped.

There are only 2 students from the high school section, which is me and Shiki-san. And Shiki-san politely gave the power to direct the meeting.

Standing in my shoes, I still have some issues with Shiki-san. In other words, I don't wish to be directed by her.

I am very narrow-minded.

Really, even though it is kinda weird saying it by myself, but I am a really petty person.

Ah, forget it, shall not bother about how petty I am for now. Now we are having a meeting, and the urgent thing is to provide information.

「This is another world. After the earthquake, our school, which is the entire mountain has been transferred to another world. We are wanderers in this other world.」

I said so.

「And those orcs invaded this mountain. From the timing, the orcs shouldn't have climbed the mountain after the earthquake, instead they came from the top of the mountain. So there must be some sort of transfer point at the top of the mountain, something that can transcend time-space. 」

I am not sure if this guess is right, but I guess they must have used some special way to move.

This world already has magic, even if there is a transfer point, there should not be surprising.

Of course, they could also have taken a transportation like saucership.

「Although I am not sure what are the aims of the orcs, but we can be sure that, that they are definitely our enemies. We have to presume that all of the buildings on this mountains have been occupied by the orcs, and as for comrades… we shall assume there is none. Perhaps some adults or students have survived, and are currently hiding.」

If there are adult survivors, they may have occupied some area, or escaped into the forest. To meet up with them, we have to search all the buildings.

But, the Cultivating Centre which just had 10 orcs, already gave us such a hard time yesterday.

I don't think that is the main force of our enemy.

Other than that, the bronze-skinned orc that appeared at the end— using the name that I gave, that is elite orc. If that is the last one, then it will be good.

It is better of me to not have those kind of optimistic view, we should presume that the enemies are very strong, and there are many elite orcs, and use that as a premise to act.

And there are at least 100 ordinary orcs, or even more. Perhaps there are even stronger monsters.

Indeed, not knowing the full potential of the enemy is a terrifying thing. The most important thing should be investigation.

But before that—

「I feel that, everyone here should do their best to level up to level 1.」

I heard the sounds of saliva being swallowed.

「This means everyone will take turns to kill the orcs. Arisu and I will think of ways to stop the orcs from moving, and all of you just have to use the spear to stab it to death. Anyway once you get to level 1, and obtained skills, then even if you suffer an attack from the orcs, you can handle it. This is not compulsory, after leveling up I will not force you to fight. But in the current situation, the difference in safety for level 0 and 1 is very big.」

Of course, if after leveling up, you have the wish to join in the fight, then I will assist from the side.

If we only depend on the 2 of us, eventually we will reach a bottleneck. From yesterday's battle, this can clearly be seen.

It is efficient in getting experience in small parties, but if we met with any troubles, then it will be hard to recover from it.

Yesterday it was Arisu who resisted my commands. Logically, I should have abandoned Arisu.

Luckily we pulled through. But, I do not wish to do that sort of dangerous stuff again.

We have to play it safe. Even if it is not a companion who we trust from the bottom of our heart, as long as she can support Arisu and I in times of need, it will be fine. I desperately need such a person.

Also, if we want to use this Cultivating Centre as base, then it must have someone to protect it.

Thinking about it carefully, it was really fortunate being able to sleep on a bed last night. If we camped out in the wilds, we may not be able to rest well, and in fact we wouldn't even know if we can sleep in peace.

「I am willing.」

Should I said this was expected? The first one to raise her hand is Arisu's good friend, Tamaki.

「I do not wish to continue to run, and I cannot always let Arisu protect me.」

She said it half-jokingly, and smiled to Arisu. Arisu gave a bitter smile in reply:「What is so bad about letting me protect you.」

「It should have been me that protect Arisu! It cannot be reversed!」

After Tamaki said it, she turned towards me.

「So, let me join your party, Kazu-senpai.」

「Ah— my party will definitely become the main force, so the risk is very high…… Forget it, this is also fine.」

To protect Arisu, she will even give up her own life. Although it will not be the same when protecting me, but as long as Arisu still likes me, I believe Tamaki will not betray us.

No, wait? What if Tamaki loves Arisu?

I am of course referring to the sexually side.

She actually has a big sense of jealousy towards me……

I looked at Tamaki's face, then she gave a「Eh?」sound, tilting her head innocently.

「What. I don't supposed you have fallen in love with me?」

「Huh?」

Arisu gave out some sound like she was coughing, and looked at me, and then at Tamaki. THe girl who felt that she was Arisu's best friend, laughed with a「hehe」.

「Ah— Tamaki, stop causing trouble……」

「Oh, so you want both me and Arisu?」

「Oi.」

Arisu turned red and white, seemingly very busy. Tamaki has the look that she wanted to continue teasing me, but I decide to ignore her appropriately.

Hmm, it is better to ignore her. As for whether Tamaki is a lesbian, it is okay to put it aside for now. She should not be that sort of person.

Then again, I feel that she didn't think about it that much.

「The others?」

「I am also willing.」

Shiki-san said.

「I do not wish to experience that sort of thing again…… But, I do not wish to join Gaya-san's party. Honestly speaking, I hope not to ever meet orcs again. But, I also do not wish that I do not have any power to fight back. So, Gaya-san, sorry, but please help me prepare 1 orc.」

I understand it of course.

The next to raise her hand, is one of the Year 1 student from middle school section that Tamaki saved yesterday.

「I am willing.」

「You are……」

「I am Tagamiya Mia, I wish to join Kazu-senpai's party.」

Tagamiya Mia is a girl who is even thinner than Arisu. Her figure is very small, not even reaching 150cm in height. Her special traits is her shiny black hair, and deep black pupils and her child-like face.

She seems like an elementary school kid. Ah, she who is studying in middle school year 1, is indeed an elementary school kid half a year ago, this is only natural.

「I wish to use magic.」

「Oh— that is true. If using magic to fight, then it has nothing to do with body size. But, Mia…… Can I call you that? Mia, even if you can use magic, it will still be as dangerous.」

「I understand.」

I look at Mia's eyes, thinking that she is not joking. She replied with her deep black eyes. Oh— I do not quite understand.

「My elder brother is in the High school section.」

「Brother?」

「He is in Year 3 Class 2.」

「But, I have never heard of the surname Tagamiya.」

「…… I see.」

「You wish to find him? So that is why you want power?」

Mia nodded. I see, so she likes her brother alot.

「Even if my elder brother is that useless, but he is still my brother, I have to protect him.」

…… Something is different.

To be honest, I hope that all of the students in the High School section are killed. Her brother may know about my stuff, perhaps through him, the people here will know how lousy I was.

Even so, there is no need to consider so much at this stage. Seeing the situation yesterday, she is still willing to fight, which says that she has exceptional courage. At least I can see it today.

If any emergency situation occurs, Arisu and Tamaki will stand on my side. From this point, party members other than Arisu and Tamaki, only Mia is needed. Even if Mia which to rebel, in the situation of 3 against 1, we will not lose.

「I cannot agree to go and search the High School section immediately, but before long, we will meet with the situation of needing to head to the High School section. Then we can search carefully.」

「This is fine, I do not wish to wait silently.」

Mia said so, so I expressed that I will looking forward to it. No matter what, all of it depends on whether she can successfully kill an orc. When she passes this rite, I will ask her again if she wanted to join the party.

Although I just said those words, but I do not hope that everyone here will have the courage to kill orcs. I estimate that only half of them will be willing.

Or supposed to be.

But after Mia, everyone raised their hands sequentially. Finally, everyone actually voiced their wish to kill orcs. It seems that yesterday's tragedy had a greater influence on them then I expected, and it gave them the realization.

「I know, then first—」

I announced to everyone.

「First let's dig some traps!」

I proudly announced. Other than Arisu, everyone at the scene gave a shocked expression.

Chapter 18: Digging Expert

The sun rose.

We are digging holes behind the Cultivating Centre, as practice for making traps.

Don't look at me like that, I can dig holes very well.

Because I had accumulated a lot of experience, I clearly know the skills on how to dig a deep hole in a short time. Everyone can call me a hole digging expert.

As digging holes requires clothes that are more suited for physical activities, hence I asked everyone to change to the gym clothes stored in the Cultivating Centre's storage room, and then gather at the back door. These are old-styled gym clothes that was supposed to be phased-out, but perhaps due to some error, they are kept in the innermost part of the storage room.

The bottom that they are wearing are not comfy shorts, but bloomers that adhere tightly. Just how long ago was it? These bloomers that were abolished due to pressure from the Parents' Society. Well it seems to be in good conditions……

Arisu had a shy look, and looked up at me.

「Erm, are you happy?」

「Huh, happy about what?」

「I heard that all guys like bloomers.」

「Who said that?」

「Tamaki did.」

Tamaki escaped from the scene quickly like a rabbit. That fellow, don't you dare escape.

The other girls looked at us, and revealed their smirk smile. Damn.

「Then when using the metal shovel, so it is better to wear jackets. All of you do not wish to get injured right?」

「If we get injured, Arisu will heal us.」

Shiki-san said so, her face also have that smirk smile. That damn fellow.

「Next we are going to have to fight with orcs.」

「Is there any relation, today's weather should also be very hot.」

Shiki-san combed her hair, shaking her head.

「Moreover, just a jacket will not be able to block the orc's axe. Since so, don't you think that wearing a bit lighter might be better?」

Listening to her say so, me who pushed Arisu and the familiars to the frontline does not have the right to say much.

「Anyway, everyone please take care not to get injured.」

Since saying anymore will not help, I can only shrug my shoulders.

I cast《Mighty Arm》on everyone, increasing their arm strength. Now me who is level 5 after casting《Mighty Arm》on 11 people, only need to rest for about 20mins, then my MP will be completely recovered. The effect of the magic will last about 1 hour to 1.5hour, so as to say, I can cast it limitlessly.

Everyone is armed with a shovel, this is also found in the basement of the Cultivating Centre. Initially I dug an ideal trap as a demonstration, then they followed.

I instructed them while beside them on how to dig to be more efficient. The hole that was finished first, was extremely ugly. Ah, but this is only practice. As a grave, it is more than enough.

That's right, this is a grave. We will be using it to bury the 5 people that the orcs killed in this building yesterday.

After we buried the corpses in the graves, we made a mound, and lastly put a branch in front of the grave as a marker.

We lightly clasped our hands together(TL note: the act of praying). After that we may need to dig a hole for disposal of waste, but because we found an emergency toilet in the storage, so we just have to install it in the lounge, saving the trouble.

As for why we didn't install the toilet outside, is because we do not know when the orcs will attack, so it is too dangerous.

Until now, 1.5hours have passed, and it is 7.30am now.

Now we are about to do the main thing. I told them to dig a real deep hole in a slightly more hidden place in the forest. Through everyone's cooperation, or perhaps everyone is getting used to it, hence the digging speed is faster than I expected.

I summoned a Puppet Golem, and let it stay guard when we are digging.

Other than that, I also summoned a crow. I don't know if it's me, but this crow seems fiercer than yesterday.

No, this fellow is really different from yesterday. Its beak is sharper than the original, and its round eyes is filled with a conqueror's aura…… No it isn't that exaggerated, it is just obvious that it is stronger than yesterday's crow…… Why?

Ah, right! I realised it. Just like Support Magic will become stronger with ranking up, Summon Magic will also be strengthened with its rank being raised.

So as to say, the summoned familiar, will become stronger as the rank rises.

Ah, but it shouldn't have any drastic changes……

I noted it down. In the future when considering to rank up Support Magic or Summoning Magi, it can serve as a base for judging.

I decided to send Arisu to investigate, and sent my crow familiar to accompany her. If Arisu has anything that she want to communicate with me, she can let the crow bite a piece of paper to return, replacing emails.

Not a messaging pigeon, but a messaging crow.

I asked her to observe from the forest, the middle school section's main school building, boys and girls dormitories, staff room, gymnasium, tracks and the tennis field etc. Just roughly and safely observe awhile will be fine.

There is another thing that I must sternly command Arisu.

「Even if you see someone in a bad situation, you cannot dash out to save them.」

「B..but~」

「If you die, then I will also lose my hope to live on. If you are not around, I may follow you.」

I don't know whether to use shameful or cowardly to describe this command….. This should be considered as begging. Because I felt that if I don't say it, Arisu will display her sense of justice again.

To ensure that it is under control, then I must use something of similar importance to chain her up.

If that can be me, then I will gladly become her chains.

I do not wish to lose Arisu. Yesterday Arisu told me that, if she dies, then she will leave Tamaki to me. That means that even if she dies, there is someone to replace her?

That is too naive. And such naivety is very dangerous.

The her now, could possibly die for me. So I deliberately said that「If you die, I will also die with you.」

Arisu opened her eyes widely and stared at me.

「This…… Perhaps I may change my mind, and viciously betray Kazu-senpai?」

I smiled. What kind of foolish words are those.

I clearly knew that she is those serious type, so it is impossible. Even me who is full of doubts towards people, also trusted her completely.

「Then I will leave a note cursing you, and commit suicide. The idea of taking Tamaki as a hostage, and bring her with me, seems good too.」

「Ah, Ka.. kazu-senpai.」

「No, sorry, I am just joking.」

「I mean to say, if I betray you, I should have some sort of realisation?」

「No, please do not betray me.」

She nodded with a stern expression. It should be fine…… I think it should be.

I don't know if it is because it is still early, but we can't see any signs of orcs. Perhaps they are still sleeping? If so then its great. I hope they will keep sleeping until we are ready.

I took the chance to use《Repair》on the weapons left by the defeated orcs, to remove the rust on the weapons.

Although there are spears, axe and swords, but I hope that everyone will use spears. Using weapons that have a long reach to attack is definitely safer, and it may more or less decrease the fear emotion.

Before long, the crow following Arisu returned, with a slip of paper in its beak.

That was Arisu's message. it wrote:「Can I bring orcs over? One.」

I wrote OK on the paper, and let the crow bite it, before flying back to Arisu.

「The orc will becoming in a while, this time we will not use traps, so everyone please back away, and hide behind the trees.」

I summoned another Puppet Golem, and cast the 3 magic《Keen Weapon》,《Physical Up》,《Mighty Arm》on both Puppet Golems.

Arisu is running in the woods, approaching us.

Tightly behind her, are 2 orcs holding axes.

This is different from what is said? Ah, Arisu suddenly turned and give it a strike. One of the orcs had its throat pierced through by the spear, and it fell, becoming paler and then disappeared. After the orc disappeared, a gem is left on the ground.

The other orc is nearing Arisu, and raised its axe high. Arisu dodged it with quick step, and ran again.

I see, now it is like what she said, she brought 1 orc back. How should I say this, I should not underestimate her.

「Sorry, there was one more hiding under the tree… What should I do now, Kazu-senpai!」

Arisu shouted to us, while running towards us.

「Ah, I wish to immobilise it.」

「Then I will attack its legs.」

Arisu quickly turned in front of me, and aimed her spear at that orc. That orc did not mind even when seeing its comrade getting killed, and still rushed towards Arisu.

Arisu stepped forward, and attacked the kneecap of the orc with the spear.

But her blow is too powerful, shattering the entire kneecap of the orc. The pig-man then rolled onto the ground.

Arisu did not hesitate to strike again, attacking the other kneecap.

Next she striked twice, and sounds of bone shattering sounded out from the left and right shoulder of the orc.

「Is this fine?」

「Yes, it is fine… You are so strong.」

The orc is struggling on the ground, and I order the 2 Puppet Golem to hold down the orc's hands.

Looking behind, I only saw that the people hiding behind the trees are so scared that they stepped back.

「Th..this is too much.」

Shiki-san gave a forced smile.

Is this sort of thinking too naive— I mumbled to myself in my heart. She had just suffered such a tragedy yesterday, and now she is still concerned about the methods?

I looked at the orc that has fallen onto the ground again.

……Wah, this is bad. Who did such a thing?

Arisu.

Hmph, enough fooling around. The truth is that, both of us are pretty unscrupulous. But this is all for the future, for the sake of survival.

「Okay, who wants to be the first to level up?」

2 person raised their hands— Tamaki and the Middle School Year 1, Mia.

Mia is slightly faster. Hmm— is it because she is Year 1? No, forget it, it's fine.

「Mia, I will leave this to you.」

「Okay.」

I gave the bamboo spear to the most petite girl in the group. Although she is pretty silent, and does not have much expression, but she should still be nervous, seeing that her hands are shaking when she is holding the bamboo spear.

Other than that, the reason why I gave her the bamboo spear and not the metal spear, is because I feel that the metal spear is too heavy, she may not be able to use it.

「Being able to stab the throat is good, but as long as you keep stabbing, it will die.」

「Okay.」

Arisu cast《Flower Coat》of Healing Magic Rank 2 on Mia. This is magic that use pink mist to surround the person who is being cast on, and hence absorb the impact of attacks. Through actual experiments, once Arisu uses her spear to attack lightly, this magic will lose its effect.

In a game's point of view, this is like increasing 5 HP. No, actually I do not even know how much is 5 HP, and said it for the sake of saying. Even so, it should ease the worries for the people.

Mia followed my instructions and kept stabbing at the orc. She concentrated on her strikes, as though she is cursing. In the process, the struggling orc kick her foot, and she gave a「ouch」sound, losing her balance. But thanks to《Flower Coat》, she remains full of energy.

After stabbing about 20 times, she luckily stabbed the orc's eye.

The orc's figure finally disappeared, and Mia's action suddenly stopped.

「I leveled up.」

She turned to me and said.

「As I said, I obtained Earth and Wind Magic.」

Chapter 19: Prying around the Girls' Dormitory

I respected Mia's judgement, and let her choose what sort of magic that she want to get.

But, I have already told her the rough direction of this party. Which is the below:

Although there is still sometime before it can be accomplished, but this elite party will consist of the 4 of us, me, Arisu, Tamaki and Mia.Also, the vanguard will be Arisu and Tamaki, and the rearguard will be me and Mia.There is no need to concentrate on firepower, but if there is, it will also be good. It will be the best if there is a convenient magic for escaping.

The combination of Earth Magic and Wind Magic, at least in Rank 1 stage, there is no magic for direct attack. But on the other hand, there are many convenient magic for support.

If that is so, then it is enough, After Mia, it is time for Tamaki to level up.

From this time, we began using traps. After digging a tap, as long as it is hidden carefully, then it can be reused.

Arisu brought our prey— which is the orc, then made it fall into the trap, then Tamaki stabbed it ot death. Tamaki also level up, and she gain Sword Skill 1 and Physical 1.

After Tamaki, Shiki-san also leveled up. The skills that Shiki-san gained are Detection 1 and Throwing 1.

After Shiki-san gained Detection Skill, she became an expert on disguising traps. Once you raise this skill, the ability of setting traps like hunters will also increase.

The reason why Shiki-san chose Detection Skill, is not to make herself a detective.

「I do not wish to fight at all, so I will do my best at running away or hiding.」

She raised her chest and said so. So big— I thought so in my heart.

Other than that, as for the reason for the Throwing Skill.

「Knives, choppers, there are as many as you want here. And they are more trustworthy than the weapons obtained from orcs.」

I see, that is indeed reasonable— I thought so. She is really a person of logic.

The magic that Mia obtained, showed its prowess immediately. The《Earth Bound》of Earth Magic is very useful, this is a magic that can control the plants on the ground and use it to tie up the enemy's' legs.

This magic can stop an orc's movements, and if it is successful, it can even trip it. And then Arisu will break the hand that is holding the weapon, so that everyone can kill the orc in a safer condition.

Although it seems like bullying the weak, but once we think about what these fellows did to us first, this sort of behaviours is nothing much.

After 3 person leveled up to Level 1, even if I am not around, it should be fine. Hence I asked Tamaki to be the guide and go investigating with me. According to Arisu, there is nearly no movement from the orcs at dawn. She express that if we do not get closer than we will not be able to get clearer information, and hence she hope that permit her to get closer to the buildings.

I immediately refuted her opinion, and express that if she really needs to do so, then it should be me who go and check it out.

First of all, the place that I am heading to, is the one that is the nearest to the Cultivating Centre… Though I said that, it takes about 10mins of walking in the forest before I can reach the girls' dormitory. The 3 stories tall girls' dormitory, as it means, it is the place where the middle school girls live everyday.

That is a squarish building that is about 60m wide.

If I didn't remember wrongly, our school's high school section should have 1300 people while the middle school section has about 700 people. So to say, there are about 350 girls? If there isn't such a big building, then it will not be able to hold so many people.

Then again……

Girl dormitory huh.

Ah, I don't have any other meanings. It is just that the words girls' dormitory, will make one think of many times— yeah right! Okay, I will be lying if I say there is nothing. But since we are attacking it, then we should start from the nearest place. That's all.

Attacking the Girls' Dormitory.

That sounds so cool. A guy poking his head out from the woods near the girls' dormitory, and using a binoculars to peek at the interior. That person is me.

That is a perverted action normally, but now this is an extreme period.

「Kazu-senpai, you look like a pervert.」

「Listen well Tamaki, this is part of the battle plans.」

But every curtain at the windows of the girls' dormitory are pulled down, so it is impossible to see the situation inside. Hmm—

Got it, there is a window broken at 1 of the rooms on level 3, perhaps we can enter from there. I decided to send the crow in to investigate.

I used a new magic— Support Magic Rank 3's《Remote Viewing》.

《Remote Viewing》 allows me to view the sights of the person who has the magic casted on, it is like a magic specially designed to be used with the crow.

But once I used it, before the magic effect ends, I will only have the sights of that person. So as to say, in this period, I will be in a completely defenseless state. So when using this magic, there must be someone who protecting me.

So I asked Tamaki to help me survey the surroundings.

Other than that, the reason why Tamaki chose Physical Rank 1, is that she wanted to use the giant axe that the elite orc, that was defeated by us, had. After getting the skill, she tried to lift the giant axe, although it is not to the level of being very easy, but at least she was not affected by the weight of the giant axe.

The power of skills is really great— everyone had to be in awe of it.

But in such an investigation, such a big axe will only be a burden. So what she is holding in her hands, is an ordinary metal sword. That was a rusty sword that belonged to the orcs, but I used《Repair》to polish it. Although Tamaki seems a bit unsatisfied, but I could only ask her to bear with it for now.

Other than her and Arisu, I do not intend to call anyone else to be my guard. Although I am not clear on Tamaki's character, but I don't think she will hurt someone who is important to Arisu, which is me.

Anyway, after I cast《Remote Viewing》, the view of the crow appeared before me.

The crow familiar spread its wing and flew into the sky. Wawa, that's awesome. The feeling of flying in the sky is so comfortable. If there are any free time, I sure wish to play with this magic.

But, I also do not know when will I have such a time.

The crow landed on the railings on rooftop of the girls' dormitory. At this moment, the group of crows which had gathered at the rooftop immediately flew away. Did they know that my crow is not a normal crow?

Then again, those crows gathered at the rooftop, which means…

There are fallen figures on the rooftop, which are corpses. There are 6 in total, which are all girls.

Those crows gathered on the corpses, and fed on the corpses until they are in pieces. I desperately suppressed the feeling of vomiting.

Luckily, the crow began to fly again quickly. Although this magic allows me to share the view of the crow, but I cannot issue orders to it. The crow entered the dormitory from the broken window on level 3.

There is a corpse of a young girl beside the window, her neck is twisted in an unnatural way; and like the other corpses, her lower half is naked. I guess that she might have wanted to escape, and broke the window, but was captured at the window, and violated, and then killed. I putted my palms together for this stranger, and pray that she did not experience much pain.

Tamaki who is standing beside me, should have seen me putting my palms together, but she did not say anything.

The crow according to my instructions, entered the girls' dormitory and began its investigation.

The difference between yesterday is that, we have ample time today. Even if this crow gets killed, it will not cause anything harm to me, but I am just unsure without the enemy knows the existence of familiars.

Forget it, the orcs looks so stupid.

But maybe I am too arrogant.

Wouldn't I be setting a death flag for myself? Ah, forget it, it should be fine.

The crow landed on the ground, and walked in the dim corridor. It seems like there is nothing that will move. This magic cannot transmit sound, so even if someone gave out pained groans, I will not be able to hear it.

The crows came to level 1, and then neared a opened room, and peeked inside.

This seems like a dining hall.

I saw a rough legs of a few orcs, and saw that there are many girls fainted on the ground, their bodies occasionally twitched convulsively

「There are survivors right?」

I don't know if she detected the changes in the expressions on my face, but she whispered lightly beside my ear.

Her breath makes my ears feel so itchy. Her soft little hand, is covered over my tightly clenched fist.

「How did you know?」

「Seeing you revealing that expression of unwillingness and clutching of your teeth, how can I not know.」

「……Yes.」

「Do we have any methods of saving them?」

If they are still alive, I of course wish to save……

But there is a problem— among the orcs, there is one with bronze skin.

「There is an elite orc.」

I said it in a low voice.

Tamaki and I returned to our companions who are hunting orcs.

Because I wish to discuss with them about the issue in the girls' dormitory.

When we returned, everyone just raised to level 1. With this, there are 9 people who are level 1, while Arisu and I are level 5.

If this is so, we might as well get everyone to level 2— I thought so greedily. After all from previous experience, once you level the Ranks of the weapon skills to 2, then it will be easy to deal with the orcs.

Though so, if we want to invade the girls' dormitory and save the survivors, then time is of essence.

Now it is about to be 9am, the orcs should be beginning to become active.

「I know this sounds very heartless, but under the situation without a concrete way of defeating the elite orc, I am against going to the girls' dormitory.」

The one who said so is Shiki-san, and I feel that her opinion is very accurate.

But I do not wish to accept her opinion.

I am clear that this is because I am just narrow-minded. It seems that while I am not around, Shiki-san has become everyone's mental support. Other than battle-related stuff, Arisu seems to be quite reliant on her opinion.

Shiki Yukariko has always been good at taking care of other, and at the same time has the qualities of a leader. It is just that when I am being bullied, she pretended to not have seen it.

Ah, damn, if I continued it will be like I am ranting.

Nevermind, I shall put this thing aside for now.

「Of course, we have to consider the survivors in the girls' dormitory, there could be friends of our juniors here. Under this premise, I feel that we have to a bit more cautious.」

Among the people present, other than me and Shiki-san, all of them are students from middle school section. The earthquake happened on Saturday after school, and at this time, unless they participated in society activities, if not everyone will be in the dorms. So, their classmates, roommates, friends, seniors, juniors etc, have a high chance of being trapped there.

Of course, that is if they are still alive…

Ah right— I suddenly discovered one thing.

So Shiki-san is taking the place of being the bad guy for me.

Perhaps that is not being thoughtful, but purely based on her judgement, that she feel that the bad guy should not be me now.

No, this is definitely it. She seems like someone who is better than me in controlling the people. The reason why I can be the leader, is because I am already level 5, stronger than all of them.

Under such a situation, only power can make everyone be at ease.

Regarding this point, she… no, everyone present is clear on that.

I looked at Arisu. I don't know how much of my despicable thoughts have been seen through by her but Arisu walked to my side, and held my hand.

「I will follow Kazu-senpai's view.」

「Wah, you two are so bright.」

Tamaki was joking at the side, so I lightly knocked on top of her head with my fist. The golden-hair girl grabbed her head and squat down.

「Ahhh, Arisu~ Kazu-senpai is bullying me.」

「You deserved it.」

Arisu said it coldly. Disregarding that— I said so, and requested for the opinions of the others.

Mia from Middle School Year 1 raised her hand.

「What I am suggesting is not an action plan, is that okay?」

「Ah, you can say out any opinions.」

「In Rank 2 Earth Magic, there is a magic called《Heat Metal》.」

I have also check such an information regarding that magic.

This is a magic that can heat up metals. If you cast it on weapons, the enemy will not be able to hold it due to the heat, and could only drop the weapon.

「I see. No matter how strong the elite orc is, once it does not have any weapons— You mean this right?」

「Yup.」

Having such a choice in using magic to support, that is really great. With this, our tactics will become more versatile.

Then again, although this girl called Mia is only in middle school year 1, she is shown to be pretty calm. Seems that she is a talent to be nurtured.

I crossed my arms in front of my chest and think. Just now Mia successfully used Earth Magic to help others to level up. From how it seems, she seems to be full of courage too.

「I know, you and Tamaki should level up to level 2.」

I judged that it is hard to immediately attack the girl's dormitory. If our actual combat strength is only Arisu and me, then it is limited in handling the situation. If we are not careful, we will end up like yesterday,

Although we won yesterday's bet, but it is hard to say if it will go well the next time. The important thing now, is to raise our battle strength. Although it is earlier than expected, but we should began to groom our main elite force.

Actually I have planned to level everyone level up to level 2, but it seems that there is no time.

「Arisu, is there any place that gathered about 4, 5 orcs?」

「If it is the place that I went to just now, there are 3, 4 orcs sleeping at the shed near the tennis court. But I think they should be up by now……」

Then we will set this place as the goal.

「Then let's go PL.」

「What is PL?」

Arisu tilted her head and asked.

「Ah— this is a term used in games. It's the short form of Power Leveling, which is the stronger players would bring the weaker players around, forcefully leveling them up.」

I feel that this phase being used at this moment, is the most apt.

Chapter 20: Elite Party

We returned to the Cultivating Centre. I used a chalk to draw a line on the ground in front of the Cultivating Centre. And asked them to dig holes at the specific locations. I asked them to dig a 1 metre long, 2 metre deep, and 5 metre wide hole at a location about 1 metre from the main door.

This is a simple moat.

There is no need to deliberately hide this hole. After all the grass near the main door is already very little, the ground is bare, so even if we used grass to cover the trap, it will be seen through immediately. So this is like a dry ditch.

The aim of making such a trap, is to block the movements of the orcs, making it easier for us to defend.

「Even if all of you guard the main door, once the number of orcs became too big, it will be hard to defend. After digging this hole, the orcs can only attack from the left and right side. So even if we are little in number, it will become easier for us to defend.」

「If we do such big actions in front of the Cultivating Centre, then the news of us using the Cultivating Centre as a base will be discovered.」

「Afterall we will be discovered eventually. Since that is so, we should have made preparations early.」

Hearing my refute, Shiki-san nodded in understanding.

「If you throw things from the windows at level 2 and 3, it will be easier to hit the targets right. 」

「Oh—That's right. This moat, perhaps is very helpful to throwing skill.」

「Isn't that good? Okay, everyone, let's work harder to dig another hole.」

Shiki-san encouraged the already tired middle school girls, and took up the shovel first and began to dig.

Ah, her waist movement is really good. If she gets a bit more experience, she will become an outstanding digging expert.

Okay, it should be fine leaving the digging to them. Arisu, Tamaki, Mia and I separated to guys and girls, and took off our sweaty gym clothes. We used wet towels to wipe off our bodies' sweat, and changed into new uniforms in the storage. Although we do not know if the orcs can smell well, so we do not know how alert we should be but having some precautions is better than having nothing.

Then, the 4 of us formed the future elite party. A red circle appeared on Tamaki and Mai's little finger on their right hand.

「All of you should go and quickly level up, and then we will go to the white room to discuss.」

「Okay—— Roger——!」

Tamaki began to salute jokingly, while Mia just nodded.

「That, that, Kazu-senpai.」

「..... What, Tamaki. What do you need from me?」

「Can I use that giant axe?」

Tamaki pointed to the giant axe at the lounge in the Cultivating Centre. That is the weapon used by the elite orc yesterday.

「Do you really want to use it?」

「In the past a wiseman said, power is POWER!」(TL note: power is in japanese, while POWER was said in English.)

「Your English is very lousy right?」

Hmm— which is as long as you wield that axe, ordinary orc will not approach easily. Although I wish that Tamaki can be a bit more steady, but as long as she pair with Mia, I don't think she will be over reckless.

「You must protect Mia who is your kouhai」(TL note: Kouhai = junior)

「Leave it to me! I am a capable girl!」

She seems like she knows how to take care of others, so I decided to believe her self-recommendation.

The 4 of us trekked through the forest, moving toward the tennis ball field mentioned by Arisu.

As Arisu said, there are loud snorings from the storage room.

「Tamaki, Mia, the 2 of you stay here and wait for orders. Mia, if any orcs escapes—」

「I will use《Earth Bound》to stop them?」

「Yes, I will count on you for that.」

Mia's comprehension is very strong, which makes me happy. I sent the crow to scout the situation inside the storage room.

「4 orcs, all sleeping.」

The crow used the voice that only I can hear to say.

「Humans?」

「None.」

I gave a sign to Arisu. Arisu took her spear, and dash into the storage room alone.

30 seconds later, Arisu walked out as though nothing has happened.

「Oh~ already defeated them? So amazing.」

Tamaki is shocked. Arisu took out the red gems that the 4 orcs transformed into, as proof.

「That, there are corpses inside…」

「We shall not bother with it for now, okay?」

Arisu hesitated a bit, but she still nodded. Although I also felt that the dead are very pitiful, but we really do not have the time to bury them one by one.

「We still need to defeat 4 orcs, then Tamaki and Mia will level up.」

As we have already become a 4 man party, the number of orcs that are needed to level up also increase by 2 times. Even so, considering the future situations, this is still worth it.

「Next where should we go?」

「The changing rooms are nearby, But I don't know if there are orcs there……」

From the result, there are also orcs at the changing rooms, and there are just nice 4 of them.

The orcs there are already awake, hence other than Arisu, I also sent 2 Puppet Golems with her, but the orcs seems to be completely annihilated by Arisu. One of the orcs tried to run away, but was trapped by the《Earth Bound》used by Mia, and finally it was killed by Tamaki.

「Ah, Level Up.」

Mia lightly mumbled. Arisu, Tamaki, Mia and I were sent to the white room together.

In the white room.

Tamaki's first movement, is to steal a look at Arisu's computer screen.

「Wah wah— This is Arisu's every details! Wa~ Arisu is really Level 5! So strong!」

Arisu looked at me, as though she has something to say.

Yes, the thing that Tamaki did is exactly what I did to Arisu yesterday. Arisu wanted to say, should be that Tamaki and I belong to the same type of people. I know. Sorry.

「Next is Kazu-senpai. Wah~ You are really Level 5 too!」

Argh, after all the computer did not mention any problematic records, so there is nothing to worry about upon being seen, so I did not mind it.

Tamaki surveyed the room.

「But, even if 4 people came together, there is still nothing here. Only the tables increased.」

「Yes.」

「How does it feel making love in such a bright place?」

I glared at Arisu.

「Sorry… Because she had used a misleading way to ask me, so…」

Arisu said so while blushing, at the same time shrunk away, as though feeling sorry from the bottom of her heart.

I peeked at Mia.

「I have learnt a lot.」

「I hope that you forget it.」

「If it is possible, I would like to learn from practicals.」

Mia looked at me with an obvious expression.

「I wish to accumulate some experience.」

「You don't need those experience.」

「Lewd virgin, so what?」

I could not help but swallowed my saliva.

Arisu glared at me with her teary puppy eyes, and I quickly raised both my hand in surrender.

「Kazu-senpai is using his eyes to leer at other girls, well that can't be helped. As long as one is a healthy guy, of course he will do such stuff. I suggest you give up.」

Tamaki gave her a suggestion like a busybody.

Haha, this girl. I prepared to use my fist to knock on her head, and Tamaki immediately escape to behind Arisu.

But Arisu grabbed Tamaki's shoulders instead, and pushed her towards me like an offering.

「Please go ahead, Kazu-senpai.」

「Wah, Arisu, you traitor.」

I complimented Arisu「Good Job!」, and then lightly hitted Tamaki's head.

「Umm, ummm— but nevermind. According to my observation, Kazu-senpai especially loves breasts, so Arisu will definitely win.」

「Do you still want to continue?」

「I will not surrender under unreasonable violence!」

Tamaki raised her big thumb.

I sighed. Argh, this is better than being in low spirits from seeing the corpses.

That's right, just now in the changing room, there is also a male corpse. His chest has been torn apart, and the neck is twisted in an unnatural direction. The reason why Tamaki behaved like this, maybe to redirect our attention.

Then again.

「Ah— hi, I say, shouldn't we begin our strategic meeting?」

I clapped, attracting everyone's attention.

It is about time to give them a sense of urgency, especially since the result of this meeting will concern our lives, so they should be a bit more nervous.

「Anyway, the 2 of you have already leveled up to Level 2.」

「But I did not do anything.」

Tamaki said it sarcastically.

「I am completely relying on Kazu-senpai and Arisu.」

「Next will be us relying on Tamaki, so don't mind it.」

「Hmm— Sorry, I shouldn't complain. Then, I just have to raise Sword Skill to Rank 2?」

「I raised Earth Magic to Rank 2.」

I nodded toward Tamaki and Mia, expressing my agreement.

「Is it fine with just the 4 of us entering the girls' dormitory?」

The 3 girls answered together「Yes」.

「The entries to the girls' dormitory are only the front door and the back door on the other side?」

「Wah, Kazu-senpai is so clear about it. I don't suppose you have came here before to steal underwear?」

「Because from the outside, I feel that the structure of the girls' dormitory should be the same as the boys' dormitory of the high school section.」

「Oh, I see.」

Other than that, just now the places that the crow investigated inside the girls' dormitory, are the same as the second boys' dormitory of the high school section. Even if I who is the only one present that has never been to the girls' dormitory, I will not get lost even if i enter in. That's really great.

Intruding the girls' dormitory…

No, this sentence sounds too dangerous. I shook my head.

「Ah, you must be thinking about something dirty—」

Tamaki stared at me.

「Ah, what should I do with you—」

「Why do you look so happy?」

Ah, forget it. I shrugged my shoulders, and returned to the original topic.

「We will use the most basic way to fight. Arisu and I will create a distraction at the main entrance, then Tamaki and Mia will take this chance to go to back door, and if any orcs appear, just defeat them 1 by 1. Before entering the dormitory, I hope to decrease the number of enemies as much as possible. If the orcs want to escape, you must do your best to stop them.」

But from our current experiences, it seems that no orc will directly escape without fighting…

「What if the elite orc appears?」

Tamaki asked.

「If it comes out from the main entrance, it will be handled by Arisu and I. Then I will call out, the 2 of you must come immediately. If it appears from the back door, then both of you should drop what you are doing and escape immediately.」

「Should I use《Earth Bound》to stop it?」

「I think it is better not to. Although we do not know the rules of the magic that are cast on the enemies, but from a game point of view, stronger enemies may resist it.」

「Resist?」

Arisu said while tilting her head. Ah— it's another game term.

「Which is that it may have resistance to magic.」

「I see.」

「Ah, Kazu-senpai, is there any magic that can increase that sort of resistance?」

Tamaki asked directly.

「Hmm— well. In Rank 1 of Support Magic, there is a magic called《Clear Mind》.」

Mia gave a「Mu」sound.

「《Clear Mind》」... Synchro Tuner?

「What is that?」

Mia expressed「nothing」, and at the same time shook her head in regret. I am not clear not what does that mean, but it should have some link to a game, anime or manga. Forget it.

「Wait a moment, let me check.」

After Mia finished her words, she sat at her computer and typed. She entered a lot of questions, and asked in a very fast speed.

In this time, we just randomly chatted.

「Hmm, I roughly understand it. Under these few situations, magic will be ineffective.」

Mia categorised the attack magic of this mysterious skills system as such:

When casting magic against a single enemy, the caster must target the enemy. So as to say, if one cannot see the opponent, then he will not be able to cast magic.

If it is a Missile type magic, then the magic will fly straight towards the enemy. There are not auto-homing attacks. If the enemy is moving fast, then there is the possibility of missing the target. If there are obstructions in the middle, it can also hit it.

As for Direct type, the distance does not matter, it will activate in an instant, hence the opponent will not be able to avoid it.

Missile Type and Direct Type, are names that I created temporary. Until now, it is the process from activation of the magic until it hits its target. Next is if the opponent have the ability to resist it.

According to the different type of magic, the requirements to resist is also different. For example when casting Rank 1 Earth Magic《Earth Bound》, if the enemy raised his legs in the instant when the plants at the feet began to move due to the magic, then the enemy will not be restrained. Knowing that this magic is not 100% effective, Mia could not help but give a bitter expression.

《Clear Mind》 can increase the resistance against mind magic that affects one mentally. The so-called Mind Magic, includes Rank 1 Wind Magic《Sleeping Song》etc. The others also includes magic that clouds one's heart. Other than that it is said that some monster have special abilities that are similar to these magic. So scary, so scary.

《Clear Mind》 also has the effect of suppressing one's fear.

According to Mia, yesterday just by hearing the elite orc's roar, she and Tamaki were so scared until they were shivering.

Since you said it like this, perhaps it is really so. The reason why Arisu and I could still move freely, perhaps it is only due to being lucky. Or it could be that we have already been in the battlefield for a while, so we do not feel especially afraid.

Even if the magic is effective, he could still use a more violent method to escape the magic's effect.

With《Earth Bound》 as an example, if the opponent is a hercules, he could even pull out the roots, and struggle free…… Seems like《Earth Bound》 will be useless against elite orc.

Hmm, I see, I roughly understand it.

But, once you list out all the possible situation of being resisted, the advantage of《Heat Metal》 becomes clear.

According to Mia's question, it is hard to increase resistance against magic like《Heat Metal》 that is cast on objects. But《Heat Metal》 is a type of missile type magic that gives off a light trail, hence it is still possible to dodge it…

No matter how strong the elite orc is, it will be hard for it to hold the burning hot axe and fight. Even if it did not throw the axe away, we should still be able to look forward to its movements becoming slower.

Ah, but—

「I suddenly realised, Mia, what if the enemy is holding a weapon with wooden handles…」

Mia and I gave an「Ah」sound, and looked at each other. As the axe that the elite orc was using yesterday, part of the handle is made of metal, so I neglected such a point……

「If the handle of the weapon is made of wood, then《Heat Metal》is useless.」

Mia lowered her shoulders in disappointment.

「We can only pray that the weapon of the elite orc is pure metallic.」

Yes— we both sighed.

「I should have guessed.」

「No, I should have guessed it…」

Ah, after the whole day yesterday, I feel that there is still no improvements.

Tamaki: Level 2　Sword Skill 1 → 2／Physical 1　Skill Point 0

Mia: Level 2　Earth Magic 1 → 2／Wind Magic 1　Skill Point 0

Chapter 21: Middle School Section Girls' Dormitory Raiding Battle

After the strategy meeting ended.

「Can I talk to Tamaki in private?」

Before we are about to leave the white room, Arisu brought Tamaki to a corner in the room, and the 2 of them began to talk secretly.

I wanted to know what they are talking about. I am really curious about it.

But, I can't eavesdrop right? Mia pulled my sleeve, as though she saw through my hesitation.

「There are secrets among the girls.」

I felt that Arisu and Tamaki's expression are very stern. Seeing that they will peek at my side once in awhile, causes me to feel even more curious.

「Then, let's have some secret talk between us too.」

「Like?」

「Arisu is sensitive behind the ears……」

Why do you know such stuff.

「When we are bathing that time, we had some body contact.」

「That is really an interesting topic.」

And then? I put my ear closer to Mia. But it seems that because I was too loud, Arisu came running over while blushing, raising her head and then looking at my angrily.

Arisu reached out without saying anything, and squeezed my cheeks.

So painful.

But Arisu who puffed her cheeks, is so cute, causing to burst out in laughter. Arisu's eyebrow frowned even more. I raised my hands meekly, showing a sign of surrender.

「I will exercise prudence.」

Although I do not understand, but I should apologize first.

Hence, Tamaki and Mia raised Sword Skill and Earth Magic to Rank 2 respectively.

Once we left the white room, we took actions immediately. What is different from the scouting before, is that there are 3 orcs looking around at the main door now.

Are they keeping guard?

But they are just standing there, and it seems like they are not especially alert. And they will yawn once in awhile.

Perhaps they were ordered by the elite orc, that is why they stood there. No matter what, what is different from dawn, is that the orcs are active now.

「The orcs moving outside have increased…」

Now it is already over 9am. It is only the matter of time that the news of the human survivors using the Cultivating Centre as their base is discovered by the orcs— I thought so in my heart.

Since that is so, we should take the chance to kill as many elite orcs as possible.

I don't know if we are considered lucky, that every building of this school is surrounded by thick woods, helping to cover the noise.

Especially the girls' dormitory. I don't know if it is due to the consideration of safety, but its position is much more hidden than the other building. Even if there are some disturbance, it should not be discovered by the orcs in the other building.

Because of this, I wish to take this chance to eradicate all the orcs here. We should decrease the number of enemies as much as possible to the best of our abilities.

I summoned 1 crow and 2 Puppet Golem, hence my greatest amount of MP decreased by 9, becoming 41.

Our party has 4 people. As the number increased, it is really too much to cast support magic on all my companions, hence I have to select.

First, me who is not on the frontline, should only need《Physical Up》that speeds one up, which is used for escaping.

What is cast on Mia, is《Physical Up》and Rank 2 Support Magic《Smart Operation》, it can increase attack power of magic.

As for Arisu, Tamaki and the 2 Puppet Golems, it is the usual 3 magic, which are《Keen Weapon》,《Physical Up》and《Mighty Arm》.

The effective time of《Haste》is very short, when my Support Magic is still Rank 3, it can only sustain for 1 to 1.5 minutes, and it will quickly reach the dilema of not having enough.

On the other hand, I asked Arisu to cast Rank 2 Healing Magic《Flower Coat》on the 4 of us, other than the Puppet Golems. This is purely an insurance. Although it is just for a peace of mind, it is better than nothing.

「Let's change the strategy slightly. First we defeat the 3 orcs at the door. The 2 at the main door, will be by Arisu and the Puppet Golem.」

「Yes.」

「I will leave the one slightly further to you, Tamaki.」

「Ah, hm, I understand.」

Tamaki held the giant axe which is bigger than her with 2 of her hands, and nodded with a stiff expression.

She swallowed her saliva with a guru sound, completely different from the lively look she had in the white room. Her teeth could not stop trembling, it seems that her first battle is making her very nervous.

Is everything fine?

No, I could only ask her to do her best.

「If there are any orcs which tried to escape, then I will depend on Mia to trap them.」

「Understood.」

「Arisu, go!」

「Yes.」

I said so to her at the instant when the 2 orcs near the main door of the girls' dormitory are nearest to us.

Arisu rushed out from the forest.

I let the Puppet Golems follow behind her. After hesitating for a moment, Tamaki also scream out as though encouraging herself, and then rushed towards the orc that is slightly distant from us.

Tsk, why did you scream.

Ah, forget it, after all, the sounds from the battle will eventually let the orcs in the girls' dormitory discover that there are enemies invading.

Perhaps it is impossible for her to not scream. This can't be helped, after all it is her first time facing an orc that isn't like a doll. When I first fought to save Arisu, I also completely lost myself. The me of that time should have also screamed. That is something that can't be helped.

Then Arisu?

I attempted to remember. How should I say this, I felt that she is exceptionally stable, or should I say calm. But, that is because Arisu is slightly special.

Hmm. Now that I think back, I discovered that she has been incredible since the very beginning. Especially mentally, she is even stronger in that. I must think of it this way, the others cannot be compared with Arisu.

Tamaki wielded the giant axe and rushed towards the orc.

This is different from Arisu's first battle, she has Rank 2 Sword Skill, as long as she battle normally, she should be able to achieve victory easily...

The axe that Tamaki swung down is slightly off the centre, and it only chopped its shoulder. The orc's right hand that held the sword is completely chopped off.

Blue blood sprayed out, covering Tamaki's face.

「Eek……」

Tamaki suddenly froze.

I could not see her expression, but…

The situation is not good. I stood up.

The orc that has its right arm chopped off went into a frenzy, and rush towards Tamaki, using its body to ram her. Tamaki who is unable to move, fell down just like that…

「Mia, use attack magic on that orc!」

「Understood.」

Although there is a risk of misfire in the chaos of the battlefield, but I am worried that if this continues, if Tamaki is pinned down by the orc, then it will be harder to assist her.

We must take the chance to kill that orc now.

「《Stone Bullet》」

The stone that Mia released, pierced through the orc's forehead beautifully.

But the orc did not die, it collapse forward, pinning Tamaki down.

Tamaki gave a shriek.

On the other side of the battlefield… Arisu killed the 2 orcs in an instant, she didn't even need the assistance of the Puppet Golems.

Hmm, Arisu is the same as usual.

What happens next is the real problem. Hearing the noise outside, there is a commotion in the girls' dormitory.

Oh shit.

Not only that Tamaki could not help, but she could even be our burden. The original plan was for Tamaki to defeat the ordinary orcs…

「Mia, the battle plan has changed, we will abandon the back door. You will stay here and await orders, and completely be in charge of support. I will go over to Tamaki.」

「Understood.」

Tamaki lost to the pressure in her first battle. But Mia who participated in the first battle, could remain calm, and that is very comforting.

「Kazu-senpai, the orcs are running out from the girls' dormitory! Ah, that, Tamaki she…」

「Arisu, you and the Puppet Golems will line up, and not let any ordinary orcs come over.」

「Yes, yes.」

1 orc rush out furiously from the girls' dormitory.

Arisu is receiving the incoming attack. I ran towards Tamaki, and observed the battle situation with the corner of my eye.

Tamaki pinned down by the fallen orc, and she completely sunk into confusion. She loosened her hold on the axe, and shrieked, and struggled. Although the orc has not disappeared, but it has already lost consciousness, unmoving.

This is the most troublesome situation. I took out a knife— that is just a normal survivor knife.

I stabbed the knife into the back brain of the orc, the orc spasmed for a moment…

Then it finally stopped breathing.

Its body gradually disappeared, leaving a gem behind.

「Tamaki, can you stand? Oi.」

I pulled Tamaki's hand, supporting her up.

Tamaki raised her head and looked at me. Big beads of tears fell from her eyes and even her snot are falling. Other than that, there is also a big wet patch inside of her skirt.

Hmm, that is really scary, and it is something that cannot be helped.

Tamaki hugged me, burying her head in my bosom, and began to cry loudly.

I gently caressed her golden hair, at a complete loss.

「Sorry, sorry, sorry, sorry.」

She kept apologising to me.

「Don't leave me behind, please, don't leave me behind.」

「Wait a moment, what exactly are you saying…」

Then, an opening music rang in my ear.

Huh? What?

I raised my head, and saw that Arisu took care of the orc that came out from the big door. With this, I leveled up.

Honestly speaking, we are really saved by this.

Chapter 22: Tamaki's Past

The 4 of us are sent to the white room.

That's great, we are saved.

Honestly speaking, I really do not wish to engage in battle with the elite orc in such a scattered state. It is impossible to achieve victory like this.

In fact, I have already began to think about how to retreat. Among Mia's magic, are there any that could be of use? Or perhaps using magic to buy some time……

Right, in this battle, we defeated a total of 4 orcs, coupled with those we defeated earlier……

I see, the elite orc that was defeated yesterday, is equivalent to the experience of 5 ordinary orcs.

Could it be that orcs also have difference in levels, and the levels will affect the experience values? Which is to say, elite orc is a level 5 orc, so it has 10 skill point, which is just enough to raise a certain skill rank to 4?

Is the elite orc's skill Rank 4 Sword Skill? Or is it some「Orc Battle Tactics」that is unique to orcs, and it is the skill that reached Rank 4? This point is unknown for now.

If the enemies also have a Skill System, then it is probably the latter. Just based on increasing Sword Skill, it is impossible for it to have that brute power.

If the systems in this world is all about Level and Skills, then I should assume that there is a Skill called【Orc】, that can increase body size and power.

Although this sounds pretty fake. Wah~ this is pretty disadvantageous to humans……

No, actually that may not be so. From current experience, the orcs are mostly simple fools. Even if it is an obvious lure, they will still obediently drop into the trap, and would not call for companions.

For instance, if a Level 0 like me wants to win Arisu that is of Level 1, then even if I use traps, it will also be hard to win her.

Which is to say, her judgement power is very strong, she will be able to discover that it is a bait immediately.

If facing a ordinary orc, as long as there are suitable equipment and preparation, I feel that there should be a chance at victory.

Actually, although there are many times due to luck, but eventually I also won.

In simple terms, our advantage is that we are able to use the correct people in the correct places……

I tried putting it in such a manner to escape reality, but Tamaki who is crying on my chest did not change.

I do not think that is she is at fault. Thinking back, it was Arisu who was too good.

I have been using a wrong standard to look at everyone. During my first physical battle with the orcs, did I also feel like I do not want to experience such a thing again?

I lowered my head and looked at Tamaki who kept saying「Sorry, don't abandon me, please」.

Then I looked up with a troubled face, at Arisu and Mia.

The 2 of them are also crying.

Argh, that, actually it was me who wanted to cry…….

Tamaki hugged me with more strength, bringing me closer.

I patted her back like I was pacifying a kid.

「Calm down. We are already safe, okay?」

Tamaki and I sat on the ground together. Argh, more accurately, it should be she grabbed on my clothes, pulling me down to sit.

Probably because this girl raised Physical Skill to Rank 1, she is really strong.

Right —— I suddenly thought of it. Although there are Physical, Movement Skills, but there are no skills related to mental.

Even with weapon skills and Physical Skills, Tamaki's heart has yet to become a warrior.If battling with the orcs, it is fine if it is something like just now, the problem is what to do next…

「Arisu, that, do you know why she became like this?」

「Yes, I roughly know it.」

「Can you tell me?」

「That~ but, it is better to first…」

Yes, we have to let her calm down first. I lightly caressed Tamaki's head, she is different from Arisu, there are scents of mandarins. Or perhaps she had put on perfume before.

「Tamaki, don't worry. I will not hate you, or abandon you over such a small thing.」

That's right, I will never take the initiative to betray you. As long as you continue to believe in me, I will also trust you forever

But Tamaki continues to cry.

She could have some severe emotional wounds. There must be something in her heart, pressing her to grab onto me who is the leader, begging for my forgiveness.

A past of cruel treatment.

I don't think that this is a troublesome matter. I am the same as her, bearing a shadow of emotions scars. We are actually similar, as long as time permits, I am willing to understand her pain, and even assist in the treatment of her scars.

Finally, it could be that Tamaki is too tired, she fell asleep like this in my arms.

I pulled my legs in, and let her head lie on my thigh. After a while my legs will become numb, then I will have to ask Arisu to help me cast《Remove Pain》.

Tamaki shrunk herself like a cat, with her arms around my waist, and slept just like that.

Occasionally she will give a few moans, don't know if she is having nightmares?

Then saying, this morning I seem to have had a nightmare too . The feeling was really bad when I woke up.

My past experience has always been bothering me, continuously breaking my heart. I believe it is the same for Tamaki.

I once again lightly caress her golden hair.

Tamaki who is in a deep sleep, began to give out satisfied sounds.

「Arisu, Mia, can the both of you sit down too?」

「Yes.」

「Hmm.」

The 2 of them bend their legs, and sat in front of me, which is the so called sitting posture of the girls.

「Okay, now please tell me. Why did Tamaki become like this?」

「Ah, this~」

Arisu hesitated a moment, and spoke:

「Before that, can you please agree to my request?」

「Of course. As long as you request it, and it is within my abilities, I will agree to anything.」

「That, that~」

Arisu swallowed her saliva, and gave out a「Un」sound, and nodded while clenching her fists.

Then she shaked her head……

Finally she looked into my eyes.

「Kazu-senpai, this is my request. If Tamaki is also willing, I wish for you to get involved with her.」(TL note: means getting in a relationship. and you know what happens next)

「Huh?」

I gave out a weird cry.

Ryuuki Tamaki is an adopted child. I have heard this matter from herself before.

Afterall she is a golden-haired Westerner with blue eyes.

「Tamaki was an orphan.」

She did not know who her parents were, she was abandoned before she knew anything.

It is said that there was a period, the upper society strongly promote to adopt and educate orphans like her. The one who adopted Tamaki, was a certain investor.

But her parents in the Ryuuki family, had very bad tempers. Although normally she was treated very well, but once something goes wrong, their temper will erupt. And every time they will scold Tamaki, saying that she is a useless child.

Like our family do not need you, you are a child that nobody wants, we wanted to adopt someone smarter.

「Don't such people get eliminated when they apply to adopt?」

「Normally they are really gentle people…… It is said that they also looked very kind.」

Yes—— Some people are just good at pretending—— I thought so like it doesn't concern me. Actually, I, myself, was forced to have the determination to kill someone due to「people are just good at pretending」……

「Even so, Tamaki still continued to work hard. She kept pushing herself, forcing herself…… overwhelming herself. Tamaki's character is just very straight, and serious, so she will keep on working hard until she overworked……」

Until finally—— that's right.

Her heart broke.

Her parents' expectations, become a heavy burden to her. She can't help it, and even had situations where she had short-term memory loss.

So, the Ryuuki Family threw Tamaki to this school.

They abandoned her—— Arisu said so.

「Kazu-senpai is a transfer student in the high school section, so you may not know, but actually this school is for those who are rich….. like『Ubasuteyama』.」(TL note: it is a Japanese legend whereby it is a place where the old are abandoned so that they can die)

I see, this school had a middle school and high school section, is a world that is separated from the outside world.

To people who wanted to use a bit of money to send their child away, this is indeed a very suitable place.

「In other words, this school has a lot of people like her?」

「Actually I am too.」

Arisu shrugged her shoulders expressionlessly. I looked at her in shock, only seeing her give a self-depreciating smile that was different from her usual smile.

「Actually I am an orphan too. Although I did not have any high expectations desired from me like Tamaki, but my foster parents also had the attitude of『just send her to this school』. I did not have a very good relationship with my foster parents.」

「Arisu……」

「Ah, please don't mind it. My foster parents have already promised me, that they will pay for all the school fees until university…… And in the current situation, those matters have nothing to do with me.」

That's true.

I sighed, raising my head and looked at the white ceiling.

After all this is another world.

「Oh yeah, then Mia?」

「Normal family, normal parents, just that their children are a bit of a hikikomori.」

「Why did you say it until like it is like a background of a movie.」

「Because they are worried that their daughter is too much of a hikikomori, so as parents they decided to send her to this environment, where everything is controlled and there is no entertainment……」

Mia stared at the ceiling mindlessly.

「The worst thing is, the mountain of pornographic mangas that I hid behind the bookshelf was discovered by them.」

「That was when you are in elementary school?」

Mia gave a「Huh?」sound, looking at me in surprise.

「Such things should be very common nowadays.」

「Don't expect to seek my agreement. I know that you are currently at an age whereby curiosity dominates, but a normal person will not have『a mountain』of pornographic mangas.」

Mia turned and looked at Arisu, and Arisu shook her heading, blushing.

「Ah, forget it. How do I say this, in short I understand that you deserved it.」

「Hmm, I think so too.」

「Didn't you mentioned before, that your brother is also studying in this school?」

「My brother brought ero-game to school during elementary school, and caused a surge……」

This brother, aren't you too capable.

Such actions, will perhaps attract someone to him. Hmm, actually it may not.

Then again, these siblings are really incredible.

「What about Kazu-chi?」

「……. You have decided to call me like this in the future? Anything. I just managed to enter this school with my results. In the transfer exams for high school, the difference is also higher.」

But I did not expect the tragedy of being bullied, I felt regret at my high chances of stepping on a landmine.

But —— I lowered my head and looked at Tamaki who is sleeping soundly, and lightly caressed her hair, then an alluring scent permeates.

「Arisu, didn't you mentioned before, thanks to her optimistic character, then you managed to get friends?」

「Yes, that is real. When I just entered school, I also did not know that Tamaki was forcing herself. Until once, I just slightly gave her a cold shoulder, then she……」

「Became like this?」

Arisu nodded, expressing that she heard Tamaki's past from her at this moment.

「Tamaki said, once she thought that she had failed the expectations of someone she trusted, then she will break down. Normally she would be fine.」

「So saying, she….. had so much trust in me」

I only met Tamaki yesterday evening.

Honestly speaking, between us there are only the relationships with Arisu. I did not expect that she actually—— how should I say this, invest in so much feelings.

「It's my..... fault.」

Arisu lowered her head and said.

「I convinced everyone—— that the rest of the days, we can only follow Kazu-senpai, if not everyone will die.」

「Ah, you said that to everyone because you wanted to help me?」

Arisu nodded, saying that it was from yesterday.

「So everyone worked hard, hoping to be able to help Kazu-senpai.....」

「..... Could it be that why everyone is willing to level up to Level 1, was also because of you?」

So when I was sleeping in the single room, the girls are in the room discussing such stuff.

That is really an unexpected assist.

Arisu, having such thoughts, made me really happy. Although I am happy, but hmm—— so there was actually such a reason why the girls are actually more obedient than expected.

「Ah, but I am not the only one, Shiki-senpai also helped to convince everyone.」

「That person?」

「Yes. Shiki-senpai said that Kazu-senpai is a person with high endurance, so if we need someone to trust now, then we should trust such a person.....」

Is she trying to repay her debt? Or she has other schemes?

「Anyway, because of this, that is why Tamaki wished to satisfy my expectations.」

If she did not satisfy the other party's expectation, then she will be abandoned—— Once she thought so, then her feelings will flow out uncontrollably like a spring.

To her, what should I do.....

「You have to put her at ease. You have to let Tamaki believe that, no matter what mistakes she made, Kazu-senpai will not abandon her.」

「If it is only that, as long as I spent time to convince her, it will be fine. Luckily when we are in this white room, there is as much time as we want.」

「In the past I tried to convince Tamaki, and tell her that no matter what she did to me, I am fine. I had even let her use a knife to cut my arm.」

But now, the wounds are already gone—— Arisu smiled and said.

What is the matter with this kid, isn't it too intense.

This was more crazy than I had expected.

「Then, Tamaki also wished for me to hurt her, and reached out with her arm… … So the 2 of us cut each other's body.」

But the wounds on her hands, also disappeared because of yesterday's《Heal》magic —— Arisu followed up.

「If inflicting harm is enough, then can't I just follow suit?」

「Tamaki and I have been together for a long period of time.」

Oh—— I see. Even for Arisu who have spent a long time with her, have to go through such an intense ritual, of course there must been an even stronger bond between me and her.

「So that is why you want me to get involved with her?」

「Yes.」

Arisu nodded nervously.

The issue has become troublesome.

I could only sigh.

Chapter 23: Arisu's Gentleness, Tamaki's Heart

I know that Arisu is the sort of person whereby once she has a certain thought, she will persist with it.

Which is to say, from yesterday, she has already shown her insistent character a few times.

I stared at Arisu for a moment.

「That…… Do you feel that we are very annoying?」

「Do my expression tell you that?」

「No, ah…… I was only thinking, if you feel that way, I have to apologise to you. If you have a bad impression of Tamaki because of me…… 」

Arisu said so depressedly.

Ah, most people should worry if they will be hated first.

But, of course I will not hate you. Because Arisu is my angel.

I felt very perplexed; not knowing what to say, I could only shift my sight to Mia.

Only seeing Mia widened her eyes, and shook her head in bewilderment.

「A harem is a man's dream, isn't it?」

「These sort of words should not be said by you!」

「Ah, if you want to do it, I will go to the corner and face the wall. You don't have to worry about it.」

「…… I said~」

「Honestly——」

Mia gave a thumbs up.

「We do not know when we will die? As long as we fail in a certain area, we will be raped by the orcs and then killed? Since that is so, of course we will think of presenting our first time to the handsome onii-chan that we are interested in. I can understand this sort of feeling very well?」(TL note: Mia is ending her sentence in a question-like manner, cutesy way. There is no equivalent that i can think of so I just left the ? as it is, think of it that way. onii-chan = guy(older) in this case. left it in for more cutesy effect!)

Who is the handsome onii-chan.

Ah, I guess other than me, there is nobody else…… What kind of nonsense is this kid saying with that serious face.

「Aren't we working hard to fight in order to prevent this?」

「Yes. To prevent that sort of thing from happening, so we have to convince Tamaki-senpai.

」

I gave a groan, and glared at Mia.

Mia revealed her mischevious smile, and raise her flat chest. (TL note: Upvote as Mia for the best girl)

Ah, seems like this fellow feels that her words are very reasonable. Damn.

「Arisu, do you also feel that it's fine? Letting your boyfriend and other girls……」

「That, this is something I proposed……」

Oh yeah, that's true——

I grabbed and thought. Seriously, why did it come to this? This is weird, all of these are too weird.

「Anyway, we will wait until Tamaki wakes up then we will do our best to convince her first,

what do you think? You will help me right?」

「…….Erm, yes, of course.」

Why does she have a look that seems to be lack of interest?

「Arisu, I don't suppose you like NTR……」

「N, NT? What?」

Ah forget it. I just brushed it over.

Mia was snickering at a corner. This damned fellow, I will really violate you.

Ah, I am just joking. Yes, I am not brave enough to say such things in front of Arisu.

「Ah—— ah, yes. If it is.. possible, that~ 」

Arisu said until here, and lowered her head.

What is the matter? Did I say something wrong?

Today, Arisu feels weird. Argh, actually I only got to know Arisu yesterday. I only felt that her thinking logic is a bit different from yesterday.

Also, I can't seem to tell what is weird. But I have this feeling that she has some plan, or tempting to test me……

But, I feel that she should not be trying to harm me.

I can almost confirm that that is not an ill intent. At least on this, I trust Arisu. To be more exact, I am trusting that she is still in love with me.

「Arisu, I want you to look into my eyes.」

「Yes, yes.」

「The words that you said now, are all for my own good, right?」

「Of course.」

Arisu clenched her fist, and looked into my eyes, and nodded firmly. Ah, I feel so happy.

But, since that is so, why did she propose this?

I closed my eyes. Since she already said so, then I will believe that she is thinking for me.

And I will not discuss whether it is good or bad to me,

I feel that she has some big misunderstanding.

Arisu is a very obedient, and straight girl, but at the same time she is also very foolish. The problem is that she does not intend on telling me how did this conclusion come about.

No, forget it. Luckily I have a set of words that should convince her. If that does not work, then I will think of a new method then……

Anyway, we still have to wait for Tamaki to wake up first.

We chatted while wasting time.

Finally, Tamaki sat up with sleepy eyes.

「Fuuu?」

She widened her eyes and looked at me.

「Good morning, Tamaki.」

「Ah—— Good morning—— Kazu-senpai……」

When she realised it, she immediately left my side with flushed cheeks. Tamaki kept on waving her hands, and saying a bunch of ununderstandable words, and kept shaking her head.

Arisu came running over, attempting to comfort her.

「Ah, that, no, I, I, wah!」

Finally she grabbed her head and squat down. I sighed, walked to her side, and squat down……

I gently caressed her scattered golden hair.

「Tamaki's hair feels more comfortable than Arisu's.」

「Muu.」

It was Arisu who pushed me to do so, and yet she is puffing her cheeks in anger.

Seeing her getting jealous, I relaxed instead. Confirming the fact that Arisu still likes me, made me very happy.

I shall not bother about how Arisu thinks, because I should think of ways to pacify Tamaki who is in front of me.

「I…… am a useless person, sorry. Kazu-senpai, that, I……」

「Tamaki, just listen to me. First of all, I like Arisu very much.」

「Eh…. hmmm, mmm.」

Tamaki raised her head in suspicion.

After she realised that I am serious, then she nodded.

「I don't wish to do things that Arisu don't like. No, I will definitely not do it. You understand?」

「Mmmm, mm, yes. I believe Kazu-senpai is such a person.」

「Since that is so, then things are simplier. You trust Arisu, right? As long as Arisu hopes so, I will definitely not abandon you. This is simple logic, do you understand?」

Tamaki looked at me in shock, and kept staring at me, as though she want to see through me.

「Hmm—— is it hard to understand?」

「I understand, but——」

「What?」

「I betrayed Kazu-senpai's expectation. And even leak due to my fear, it is so shameful that I can't do anything.」

Tamaki shift her sight away.

I deliberately use a very gentle voice to told her to「turn here」.

「No, that is not, Tamaki.」

I looked in the blue eyes that are as deep as the ocean, and said.

「Listen to me, it will not go smoothly for the first time for everyone. When Arisu entered the battlefield for her first time, she also leaked. 」

「Eh?」

「Eh!? Wait, wait a moment, Kazu-senpai!」

Arisu reached out towards me, attempting to stop me.

Even her ears have turned red.

Mia was faster by a step. She pretended that it was natural and got behind Arisu, and restricted her hands behind her. A beautiful assist.

Ah, actually I do not know if Arisu did leak anot.

But~? Seeing her reaction…… Did Arisu just gave herself away?

「I have read in a certain book once, that in the 911 incident in New York, the firemen all leaked as well.」

「Eh?」

Tamaki raised her head, a face in shock. Suu suu~~ she sniffed her nose.

「Didn't you hear that when one means a fire hazard, his strength will be greater than normal? When in a critical situation, humans can do some unexpected things.」

「Hmm, mmm, I have also hear such…… myths.」

「It is not a myth. Although I also heard this—— it is said that human will go into a hercules mode under intense state, this is a common knowledge in psychology.」

Tamaki looked at me in doubt, her expression seems to be saying「then so what」.

「But, such a mode in a fire hazard, will temporarily cut off the other functions in the body that has nothing to do with sustaining life. Because the human body will concentrate all its power in the place that needs it the most. The phenomenon of leaking, is because the strength of the bladder is used on the place where survival is needed.」

「……Uh, so——」

Tamaki reached out and touched her skirt, and frowned because of the moist feel.

「So——」I continued in a serious face.

「Your reaction is very normal. There is no need to mind……. it is good that you mentioned it first. It must be had to suddenly leak. 」

「I did not leak.」

「It's fine, there is no need to feel bothered——」

「I already said, I did not leak.」

「Okay, no matter what, I won't mind, and I feel that 1 or 2 failures is also unavoidable.」

「..... Huh?」

Tamaki tilted her head, revealing a blur expression, then a hurted expression, and then a crying expression. That is really busy.

Ah, but, I think it is all my fault.

To have my revenge against that fellow, I have read many books regarding military and physical power, and now the efforts finally paid off. Although these knowledge has no use in my initial revenge plan, but at least it helped Tamaki who was in a state of confusion.

「Sorry, but regarding your past, Arisu has already told me about them. With this as a premise, I want to say —— I want you.」

「Wah, wah ah, meow, meow, meow!」

Why did she call out like a cat. But that is fine.

Also, I said it wrongly.

「I want your heart.」

Ah, it seems wrong to say it this way. Hmmm—— I groaned while pointing my finger on my forehead.

「Uhh—— I will say it again. I want a comrade that will not betray me. Just like the trust between you and Arisu, if you are willing to trust me, then I will also trust you completely.」

「Uh, uh—— that~」

Tamaki placed her hands on her cheek, raising her heading and staring at me with a blur expression.

Ah, I told you not to take it wrongly. Just now, it was my fault, I said it wrongly. Don't think about it too much.

「Ah, I know you said it wrongly. But, eh, I am very happy.」

「Woah, that is good.」

「If a smelly girl who smells like urine is fine, uhh... then please take good care of me.」

「You really took it the wrong way huh?」

After Tamaki bowed to me, she grabbed my out-reached hand and stood up.

She stood in front of me and smiled.

「Can't I continue to take it the wrong way?」

「..... Your character is indeed great.」(TL note: MC is sarcastic)

Tamaki laughed with a "hehe", and turned towards Arisu.

Arisu had just told me that it was fine, but now she is staring at me angrily.

「He——he—— Arisu, what is it? Your expression seems like you had your boyfriend snatched away.」

Tamaki pushed her luck and patted Arisu's shoulder

「I.. I don't care.」

Arisu turned her head away indignantly.

I sighed and shrugged my shoulders.....

All of a sudden.

Tamaki stepped towards me, and placed her lips on my cheeks.

<img border="0" height="320" src="https://4.bp.blogspot.com/-JJ36kCv-NCI/VrjLik8M5AI/AAAAAAAAAGs/I0bIN40IZS4/s320/IMG_4930.png" width="180">

The feel of the soft lips was only for an instant. Tamaki immediately moved away.

She is blushing, but her face had the smile of a prankster.

「Hehe, there is only this now.」

I used my hand to stroke Tamaki's cheeks, while looking at her.

I did not look toward Arisu, because I feel it will be very scary. I felt like there was a piercing look from that side, so I deliberately did not look towards that side, I will definitely not look over!

After all, all these are arranged by you, now what are you angry about!

Hence ——

I sat on the chair in front of the computer and sighed.

What should I do?

I once again began to think calmly. Tamaki is not someone special, or rather, it was Arisu who was too special. I realised this point again.

Argh, but thinking about it carefully, just how many girls can face an orc in a battle in the world, and also be completely fearless while challenging an elite orc?

Too difficult. Suddenly sending her to battle is too difficult. But if we do not let her get used to it, it will be troublesome.

Considering the future situations, if the vanguard that can face the elite orc is Arisu only, it is definitely not enough, there is a need for Tamaki to grow as well.

The reason why I am so insistent on Tamaki, is only because she has the passive of protecting Arisu. Against elite orc who is the representation of fear, the spirit of willing to sacrifice for someone, will become a big source of courage.

I wish to settle the position, as preparations for the future elite orcs that we will face.

But, how to break the stalemate……

「I guess we still have to sacrifice the familiars.」

I turned towards Arisu to seek her opinion, and I just happened to meet her eyes.

Arisu crossed her arms in front of her chest, and looked at me with an expression that is deep in thought.

「Ah—— what is the matter?」

「That…… Kazu-senpai, can't you just depend on us?」

「It isn't impossible, but how can I treat all of you as expendable shields? I feel that we need to increase some choice in battle tactics. To put it bluntly, it is how we deal with the elite orc that we are about to face?」

Actually the answer is almost out.

When fighting with the elite orc, Arisu will be the vanguard, and Mia will use magic to assist.

This is the basic pattern. The conclusion from the previous discussion is that, Tamaki's job is to defeat the other ordinary orcs.

The problem is this.

Tamaki seems that she is fine, but she is probably still forcing herself.

She should still need a bit more time.

Then, I will need to summon familiars that are stronger than the Puppet Golems.

I wish to use my own freedom in exchange for power.

Although I said so to Tamaki, but in reality, using familiars to battle, it is much easier than using humans to battle psychologically.

I felt so deeply.

Kazuhisa: Level 6 Support Magic 3/ Summon Magic 2→3 Skill Points 3→0

After pressing the confirm button, we return to the original place.

The final battle begins.

Chapter 24: Final Battle at the Middle School Girls' Dormitory

We returned to the battlefield in front of the girls' dormitory from the white room.

I confirmed the situation around us quickly.

Tamaki is still crying in my arms. At a few dozen meters from the entrance of the girls' dormitory, Arisu and the 2 Puppet Golems are holding their weapons. While Mia is hiding slightly further away in the forest.

This moment, a shivering roar echoed out from the girls' dormitory.

Tamaki hugged me tighter, and Arisu steadied her steps. I glanced that Mia, I don't know if it is because she is scared, she is sitting on the ground on her butt.

This is bad. At this sort of scattered situation, we had to battle the elite orc……

「Arisu, come over here! I will cast《Haste》on you!」

「B..but~」

「Don't care about the Puppet Golems!」

Just as Arisu was running towards me, the bronze coloured orc also rushed out from the girls' dormitory.

It's the elite orc. This orc which is bigger than the other orc, wielded its giant axe effortlessly, and smashed one of the Puppet Golems in a blow. The Puppet Golem lie on the ground, disappearing from its upper body.

The other Puppet Golem used its rod to knock at the elite orc, but it seems to be completely useless.

Ah, this is also expected. I placed my hand on the hand of Arisu who was running towards me.

「《Haste》」

Arisu's body gave out golden light.

「Go!」

「Yes.」

The elite orc also smashed the second Puppet Golem.

In the next second, Arisu who is holding the metal spear, rushed towards the elite orc and stabbed the spearhead into its body.

The elite orc roared in rage, and shook its huge body left and right, sending Arisu's small figure flying.

The moment Arisu contacted the ground, she lightly spinned around and stood up quickly.

The elite orc rushed towards her.

Arisu who had《Haste》on her, steadied her steps, held her spear and thrust sharply at the elite orc's legs.

Fresh blue blood sprayed around, staining the grass. The elite orc's naked legs suffered a heavy blow, and it once again gave a roar.

Although it did not seem to be of much use. But it had the effect of restricting it, it did not chase again. Arisu took this big chance, and put some distance between them.

Very good, she fully utilised the experience she got from the battle field yesterday, and battled at her pace. At least she gained a bit of time for us.

I decided to take this moment to summon new familiars.

「《Summon Gray Wolf》」

A wolf with long gray fur appeared by my side.

It has a pair of smart and clear blue eyes, its body should be over 1.5m. It looked at me, as though waiting for my instructions.

「《Physical Up》,《Mighty Arm》, 《Haste》.」

I cast support magic on this very intelligent familiar.《Haste》magic effect, caused its fur to turn golden. At this moment, 3 orcs came out from the girls' dormitory.

I lightly patted the wolf's back, and pointed at the newly appeared orcs.

「Get rid of them! As long as you can buy us some time, it will be fine!」

The golden wolf gave a howl and sped towards the 3 orcs that held either swords or spears.

It bit the shoulder of the foremost orc, and pushed the party down.

The 2 other orcs began attacking the golden wolf. The smart golden wolf abandoned the follow-up attack, and retreated by jumping back a moment before the sword and spear attacks.

Thanks to the effect of《Haste》, the nimbleness of the golden wolf is far above that of the orcs. It did not force itself to attack, only playing around with the 3 orcs in its palm. (TL note: or should I say paws~)

The truth is, just by avoiding the attacks, the golden wolf has its hands full. After its first attack, it did not have any more chance to give the enemies any injuries. Then slowly, scratches appeared, and the golden fur began to split. I guess when the effects of《Haste》ended, it is also the moment when it dies.

「Tamaki, can you stand?」

「Hmm, mmm..... it is fine, I can.」

Tamaki's face is pale, but she still clenched her teeth and stood up. She stared at me and reveal a forced smile.

「After returning here, it is still wet. It had already dried over there.」

Tamaki looked at her lower body, and said while smiling sarcastically.

「You can take it that today you can just leak as much as you want.」

「I am gonna wipe it on your body.」

「I heard that in certain areas, that is a sort of reward.」

Tamaki smiled and said:「What's that, pervert.」. She used her trembling hand and held the giant axe again.

I touched Tamaki's shoulder lightly, and cast《Haste》on her. Tamaki's body scattered golden light.

「No matter how ugly or embarrassing it is, I will always be looking at you. Go defeat them!」

I lightly patted her back. Tamaki stepped forward and leaned back, nearly falling, she glared at me while turning back, as though she is protesting.....

She quickly turned her body towards the front.

The girl swallowed her saliva.

「I am going to head out, look at me!」

Tamaki ran towards the golden wolf that was fighting with the orcs.

The golden wolf successfully attracted the orcs' attention. Tamaki sneakily went behind the orcs, and gave its defenseless back an attack.

The orc's body was splitted into 2 by the slanted attack, the wound sprayed blue blood, and it fell on the spot.

The 2 orcs left turned their heads towards Tamaki in shock. At this moment, the golden wolf took the chance and bit the shoulder of 1 of the orcs, and pushed it down.

The last orc recognised Tamaki as a strong foe, and turned towards her.....

Tamaki gave a shout, and swung her axe at the 2nd orc. This attack that disregarded all the defense, beautifully split the orc into halves.

The orc's body fell on both the left and right.

Tamaki placed the giant axe down breathlessly, and stood at the spot, completely bathed in the orcs' blue blood. (TL note: gosh, this is kinda freaky if she ever becomes a yandere)

This moment, the golden wolf tore apart the throat of the 3rd orc that it had pushed down, giving it the fatal blow.

Like this, the ordinary orcs are all wiped out.

「Okay, well done!」

「Ah…… Kazu..senpai.」

Tamaki turned back with a pale face.

「A..am I of help? 」

「Mmm, of course.」

Tamaki said「that's great」, and smiled unnaturally.

On the other side, the battle between Arisu and the elite orc has already reached the climax.

Arisu barely dodged the elite orc's attack, and at the same time, maintained distance with it.

Although just now I was focusing Tamaki's side, but I also kept taking note of the chances to cast《Reflection》on Arisu, but I could not find any suitable timing.

It was indeed a coincidence yesterday.

The most crucial part of《Reflection》is the timing when casting it. If it failed, Arisu will get split into 2. To cast《Reflection》without certain psychological tactics, it does not seem to be easy.

Since that is so, before finding other methods——

「Mia! Mia, magic, you can do it!」

I shouted to Mia who is still hiding in the forest. The girl who was confused due to the roar just now, recovered and quickly got up……

She looked at me, and her cheeks blushed.

Ah, this fellow also leaked.

Well, this is something that cannot be helped. That roar, can indeed have a great effect on lower leveled opponents.

I suddenly discovered one thing. I should have first cast《Clear Mind》on everyone before the elite orc appeared!

Wah, this is my mistake. I already knew that the elite orc will roar, why didn't I make preparations first?

Okay, forget it. Later when we have a reflection session, I will apologise to everyone.

「Mia, can you cast《Heat Metal》on the elite orc?」

「Mmm, I can!」

Mia nodded, and stood up.

She stretched her palms out, and aimed at the giant axe that the elite orc is about to wield at Arisu.

「《Heat Metal》.」

A ray of dark red light shot out from Mia's palm, and hit the giant axe of the elite orc.

The axe followed its ordinary trajectory and came down, and Arisu avoided the attack at the last moment, but she was blown away by the wind, and fell on the ground.

The elite orc attempted to gave chase, and hence grabbed the handle of the axe, thinking of bringing it up……

A scent of burnt meat came.

The elite orc gave a miserable groan, and let go of the giant axe in its hand.

「Arisu!」

「Yes!」

Arisu jumped, and at the same time, stabbed her spear at the elite orc.

Under the impressive presence, the spear stabbed into the enemy's defenseless chest.

This blow beautifully pierced through the elite orc's heart.

The elite orc's scream pierced the surroundings.

It moved back a few steps shakily.

Then fell to the ground, powerlessly.

The huge bronze-coloured body gradually disappeared.

Finally, all that is left is a blue gem that is like yesterday's.

「Ah.」

Other than me, the other 3 all shouted.

「Leveled up.」

We are transferred to the white room. With this, it seems the experience points are enough.

Chapter 25: Earth and Wind Magic in the White Room

Mia used her hands to block the front of the skirt while blushing.

Hahaha, she is really a fool. By doing that sort of movement, doesn't it attract others' attention?

「That's great, Tamaki. You have a companion.」

「I do not feel happy! Kazu-senpai is super pervertic!」

I gave a low-classed laugh.

Then I turn towards Mia and walked towards her, while rubbing my hands together.

Mia moved back with tears in her eyes.

「Kazu-senpai, your interest are too pervertic!」

Arisu puffed her cheeks, and stood in between me and Mia.

She lowered her eyes, revealing a sad expression.

「I hated this sort of Kazu-senpai.」

「Sorry. I wouldn't be like this anymore, please smile.」

I honestly bowed as an apology. Arisu's angry look is so adorable, too cute.

But I hurted her heart.

「I know, so Kazu-senpai's weakness is Arisu!」

「Your weakness is Arisu right?」

「I lost! So we are the same.」

Tamaki laughed with haha. This fellow had also gotten her lower half dirty, but yet she is still so energetic.

No, even her ears are red, and her line of sight is deliberately avoiding me, seems that she is just forcing it to be less awkward.

I feel like teasing her, and make her even more awkward.

I desperately suppressed the surging desire, because Arisu is glaring at me.

「Ah, Arisu, you also leveled up this time?」

「……Yes. Including me, other than Kazu-senpai, the other 2 also leveled up.」

I decided to change the topic.

Regarding the experience needed to level up, it is the same for Tamaki and Mia, and Arisu should need a bit more than them.

Using an orc as calculation, it should be about half an orc's experience.

…… This sort of calculation is so troublesome.

Let's assume an orc's experience is 60.

Why set it at 60? Because it is the smallest common denominator for 2,3,4,5 and 6.

So as to say, no matter whether the party is 2, 3, 4, 5 or 6 people, it is a number that can be divided.

My current level is 6.

In other way, the experience needed for my next level up is 420.

We are a 4 person party, so with every orc that we defeated, everyone can get 15 experience.

After the last level up, we defeated 1 elite orc and 3 orcs, hence……

The current experience is 120.

I should still need about 300 points to level up.

Arisu who just leveled up, her current experience is 0.

The experience needed to level up for Tamaki and Mia is 240, and their experience now is 30.

Mmm, we will use this method to calculate in the future.

Well we shall not care about this now.

「Arisu's skill point is 3 now? Should you save it, or use it to raise the Rank of Healing Magic…….」

「Ah, that, can I voice my opinion?」

Arisu rarely voiced her own opinion.

Currently any arrangement regarding to skills, Arisu left it all to me to decide, hence it is really rare for her to say so.

But I roughly know why she said this.

I have also checked many information regarding healing magic.

Hence, I roughly know what she is hoping for.

「In Rank 3 Healing Magic, there is a magic called《Cure Mind》. Even if you are so scared until you could not move after hearing the elite orc's roar, as long as you cast this magic, you will immediately recover. And……」

「If we meet any female survivors, you wish to cure their mental wounds. Am I right?」

「…… Yes.」

Mmm, what I just proposed should be Arisu's real thoughts. She could have felt that if she just said this reason, I may not accept it, so she thought of the excuse.

This fellow, actually played mind games.

But she is adorable in such a way too. After being exposed by me, Arisu who looked at me while blushing is extremely cute.

She is an angel. I could not help but caress her head, in the end her face gotten even redder.

Regarding the former, I thought about it in detail.

The biggest problem is that when elite orc appears, will Arisu have the time to cast《Cure Mind》on others?

No, I shook my head. If she had that time, Arisu should attack the enemy. Of course, I will cast support magic《Clear Mind》 on them first.

When Tamaki grew up a bit more and have the method of dealing with elite orcs, then that will be different……

Although that is so—— I crossed eyes with Arisu. The girl in front of me placed her hands tightly on her chest, and looked at me with sorrowful eyes, awaiting my decision.

She saved Shiki-san yesterday, but even though she treated Shiki-san's injuries, Arisu felt helpless at her inability to cure her mental wounds.

Thinking about it carefully, actually I have always been putting the burden on Arisu. Because I can't understand the pain of the girls, so no matter what happens, I have to rely on her.

On this, although it is bad to say this, but Tamaki and Mia are currently unreliable.

Since Arisu said she need《Cure Mind》, then it means that it is a must—— that is the conclusion I made. Afterall me who is a male, is unable to understand the wounds of the hearts of a female.

「I understand, then you will raise the rank of Healing Magic.」

「Yes, thank you, Kazu-senpai!」

A smile like a flower was shown on Arisu's face. That smile was that pure, and just by looking at her expression, even I was dyed in her happiness.

Ah, so adorable—— I could not help but feel the edges of my mouth curling up. Tamaki and Mia are both looking from the sides, but I do not care.

Ah—— but……

The me now, perhaps will be unable to make decision calmly due to emotions.

Not good. The worst situation is that I will doubt my own decisions.

Hmm—— I am indeed not suitable to be a leader. I do not even have the capability to lead people.

Among us, the person who has such an ability……

I thought about it.

No, even without thinking, the answer is obvious. Indeed the person is Shiki Yukariko.Without doubt, she has the talent of being the leader. Putting aside my personal feelings, and letting her be the leader in controlling everything, should be the best choice.

But——

Will I be willing to listen to her commands?

…… that is difficult.

I know that my attitude is twisted. Me who is unable to accept it honestly, may even become the cause of causing unrest.

Problems of the heart is hard to solve, especially those in mine.

Normally if I meet people that I do not get along with, I can just ignore them.

But now is not normal times, but war times.

With limited manpower, limited companions, limited ways. Under such situations, can I still make decisions based on personal feelings and likes?

「Tamaki, Mia, how do you wish to use the skill points?」

「I wish to keep them and quickly raise Sword Skill to Rank 3.」

「Should I…… raise Wind Magic, or keep it, and then raise Earth Magic to Rank 3? I wish to hear Kazu-chi's opinions, Other than that, if you can use《Summon Cloth》to summon a cloth, I will be glad.」

「Cloth?」

「That, erm…… cover.」

Mia's last sound was so weak until it nearly couldn't be heard.

This petite girl lowered her head with eyes brimming with tears.

Okay. I nodded.

She had wanted to use cloth to replace her clothes. I suppose that is right, if we are going to stay in this white room for a period of time, of course she will think of taking off the uncomfortable underwear.

I used《Summon Cloth》to summon a big piece of cloth and gave it to the 2 of them.

The 2 of them wrapped the cloth around their waist.

They took off their skirts and panties, hid it behind them and then sat down. Because I am scared that Arisu will get angry, so I tried to hold back from looking in their direction, at the same time think about what to do.

The rustling of the clothes kept distracting me, and I had to work hard to concentrate on Mia's suggestion.

Argh, right, the problem is about wind and earth magic, and should be on which one to raise.

「Mia did not even use wind magic once in this battle.」

「I had predict that if there is a need to escape, then I will use《Smog》.」

《Smog》of Rank 1 Wind Magic, is a magic that create fog in the surroundings. Just as she said, this magic has a great effect when escaping. Versi vesa, other than escaping, there is almost no use for it. If we have the infrared goggles used in military, then it will be different. Else even our vision will be blocked. If something happens because of this, then it will be terrible.

「Other than that if we need to do ambushes, we can use《Sleeping Song》to hypnotize the orcs.」

「I feel that Mia's current MP is too little, if we use MP on such magic, we might as well get Arisu to defeat them…… Moreover I was thinking of using the sounds of battle to attract the enemies.」

「In the future when I continue to raise my level and MP becomes more, then Rank 1《Sleeping Song》will be useful.」

Just like she said, among Rank 1 Wind Magic, there isn't any strong magic that directly attacks the enemy.

The 2 magic left, are《Air Blast》which uses strong wind to restrict the enemy's' movement, and《Soft Landing》which reducing landing speed.

I believe when they are used in correct timings, these 2 magic are very useful. Just that in this battle, we chose other magic.

As for Rank 2 Wind Magic……

「If you want to focus on attacking, then《Silent Field》should be useful.」

《Silent Field》is a magic that is cast on a person or an object.

It can create a space where no sound will leak out.

When the target which has the magic cast on moves, the space will follow. The space is roughly around 3m wide.

As long as the entire party enters the space and move together, then we can move without sounds of footsteps.

Or isolate the sounds during battle, and do assassinations like assassins in period dramas.

「There is still the attack magic《Sonic Edge》right? But Earth Magic has attack magic too.」

「If we keep the skill point and use it to raise the rank of Earth Magic, then what are the magic in Rank 3 of Earth Magic?」

「There is a magic called《Earth Pit》that is very suitable for Kazu-chi, that is a hole digging magic.」

「That's it!」

I pointed my finger at Mia.

Mia could not help but lean back, and her lower body that was covered by the white cloth was nearly exposed.

「..... You wanted to peek just now, pervert.」

「Well don't care about this for now.」

「Pervert.」

The 3 girls glared at me.

「Sorry.」

I lost to the pressure of numbers, and could only bow honestly.

「Okay.」

Mia raised her chest in a swagger manner. This damn fellow.

I coughed a few times.

「I guess, Arisu will raise her Healing Magic to Rank 3, and it is better for the other 2 to save their skill points first. After all your levels are too low, and now you should focus on 1 skill.」

Nobody objected. In the battle just now, both Tamaki and Mia clearly felt that their power isn't enough.

The 2 of them gave a serious expression, as though saying they want to catch up to me and Arisu immediately.

「Then we will decide it like this.」

We returned to our ordinary world.

Arisu: Level 6 Spear Skill 3／Healing Magic 2→3 Skill Point 3→0

Tamaki: Level 3　Sword Skill 2／Physical 1　Skill Point 2

Mia: Level 3　Earth Magic 2／Wind Magic 1　Skill Point 2

I sent the crow in to scout first, while we carefully stepped into the girls' dormitory.

The first target is the cafeteria.

The stench that came, caused all of us to frown.

The tables and chairs in the cafeteria are all destroyed , and there is an empty space in the middle.

There are many naked girls piled up here.

About 50 people.

No, should be 50「corpses」.

The girls that are piled up here are all dead.

Arisu who walked in front sucked in a breath, Tamaki and Mia also remained at their spot due to the tragic scene in front of them.

「Everyone…… are dead?」

Tamaki mumbled.

「No.」

I shook my head.

Then I pointed to the wall, there are about 10 naked girls lying there.

Their chests all slightly moved up.

「They are still alive!」

Arisu gave a big shout and immediately ran towards them.

Bonus Booklet: Fire Magic and Water Magic

The second day afternoon after arriving in the other world, inside the white room.

Arisu, Tamaki, Mia and I formed a circle, and sat on the ground, discussing what kind of skill that we should obtain.

The biggest problem is the balance of magic.

「Ah. I already have Wind Magic and Earth Magic……」

In the skill systems, there are a total of 7 magic.

What I have is Support Magic and Summon Magic, Arisu have Healing Magic, the others include Fire Magic, Water Magic, Wind Magic and Earth Magic. In the party formed by the 4 of us, there is Fire Magic and Water Magic is still missing.

「From a game's point of view, even without Fire and Water Magic, we shouldn't get stuck.」

Mia who is a gamer hikikomori said so.

「But the premise is that all 4 of us are still alive.」

「No matter what, as long as a person is missing in a 4 person party, the situation will become tough.」

I shook my head. If we are considering that someone will be missing, and that we can immediately cover it up, then we must fill the members to the limit of the party, which is 6 people.

I was very clear about this point from the very beginning. But even so, the reason why I only chose Tamaki and Mia, and form a 4 person party, is because I want to level up as fast as possible, and grow to the point where we can defeat the elite orc we met yesterday with ease.

In this world, as long as you strengthen your skills, you can be infinitely strong. We should strengthen ourselves as priority, and be able to protect ourselves in any situation.

Even though I said so, I am also curious on why Mia gave up on Fire and Water Magic.

「Why did you choose Earth and Wind Magic?」

Mia looked at me with sleepy eyes, and smiled slightly.

「The best thing about Fire Magic, is about its firepower and its suppressing power. But in this party, there are already 2 vanguards, and there is still Summoning Magic, so I judged that the firepower is enough. And as for the suppressing power, we can replace it through Summoning Magic by calling out a lot of familiars.」

Her thoughts are very reasonable. Actually I hope that Tamaki can raise her Sword Skill as a priority, and focus on a Skill completely, becoming an even stronger vanguard than Arisu. Then, Arisu can retreat to become the center. While using Healing Magic, and supporting Tamaki, becoming a vice attacker.

And my familiars can support the parts that Arisu could not provide.

As for the firepower during battle, currently the only thing missing is our ranged attacks…… And Earth and Wind Magic can provide them to a certain extent.

「If there are doubts, we should discuss until we are all in agreement. Let's continue.」

Mia opened her notebook, and continue to write the magic's names.

「Wait, Mia. Why can you write out the names of the magic so smoothly?」

「I was troubled in the white room for a long while. Although I told you that I want to choose Earth and Wind Magic, but if there are better magic, I will change my decision.」

「You are talking about the time when you leveled to Level 1? How long did you stay in the white room?」

「Hmmm…… should be over half a day.」

「I didn't expect that you are so indecisive.」

「Because this is something that concerns about my life and death.」

「She is completely right about this.」

Mia wrote down the names and effects of the Rank 1 Fire Magic in the notebook:

◆Fire Bullet

Shoots fireball. Attack magic.

◆Light Fire

Lights a fire. Give me a lighter.

◆Flash

Flash light, something that can block the enemy's' vision.

◆Warm

Assistance, provide human warmth. Give me more clothes to wear.

Not including the unnecessary retorts, Mia arranged the information relatively well. I have also check the Rank 1 and 2 of the magics, and hence I am touched by her straight to the point expressions.

「From this, the only meaningful magics are《Fire Bullet》and《Flash》which belongs to attack magic.」

「That's right. Even if there are magic that can replace the lighter, it is useless.」

「Mmm.」Mia nodded.

「If you also wrote Rank 2……」

◆Firework

Every Rank can release 1 firework. Attack magic.

◆Ghost Fire

A fire that floats in the air. Give me a torch light.

◆Flame Sword

A fire sword will grow out from your hand. Can be used for physical fight?

◆Resist Fire

Can resist fire.

「This has《Resist Fire》, which is a lesser magic for《Resist All》in Rank 4 of Support Magic. 《Resist All》can allow party members to have the resistance against 1 of the attributes. In the magic of all the 4 attributes, there is the lesser magic in the Rank 2 of the skill.」

「Right. But my Support Magic is still far away from Rank 4.」

「As long as we kill orcs in large amounts, then it will be fast. Roughly within today, you will reach Rank 4.」

Hmm, if we use the current speed to kill orcs, perhaps that will be true.

「The most important magic in Rank 2 is《Fireworks》. This magic is very strong. Not only can it target, the range is also very far. It has a lot of good points. The other 3 attribute almost do not have such a convenient attack magic like it. At least not within the lower Rank.」

Mia explained it passionately. Oi, isn't your stand against Fire Magic?

「But only this magic is like this. Like I said just now, I don't put importance on attack. Since so, I judged that there is no need for Fire Magic now.」

「I see. Within Fire Magic, there isn't much convievent magic……」

「If you raise it to Rank 5, then there is the restraining magic《Flame Bound》and light healing magic《Fire Heal》. But in the current stage, even if we look so far into the future……」

「It is also useless. Yes, Rank 5 need 15 skill points, even if we all concentrate on focus on it, you will also need to raise until Level 8.」

「To survive until Level 8, it is better to have convenient magic like Earth Magic and Wind Magic.」

Her words are really convincing.

「Next is Water Magic.」

Mia listed the content regarding Water Magic in her notebook.

◆Rainwater

Summons water. Dredged.

◆Poison Needle.Poison Needle. Attack Magic.

◆Ice Film

A film of cold air. Can be used as air conditioner?

◆Swim

Swim. Let me swim by my own.

「As you see, although《Poison Needle》is an attack magic that can release poison needle……」

「But that is a poison that cause the enemy to be paralysed, and it need about 10 seconds for its effect to show. When I realised this, there is a sort of despair feeling.」

「Hmm. Before the poison spreads to the orc's whole body, we will die first.」

We do not have that sort of time. If it is against the elite orc, perhaps it will have some meaning…… But will this be effective against the elite orc?

「《Rainwater》is a good news to farmers who lack water.」

「In other words, it is completely useless to us.」

Tamaki sighed. Arisu also nodded to express her agreement.

「And if we need water, Kazu-senpai can use summoning magic to conjure some……」

「That's right. If it is battling at the lakeside or seaside, then《Swim》will be convievent.」

「But there is no lake in this mountain.」

There is at most the swimming point. This magic is really too hard to use.

「Anyway I also wrote down the Rank 2 magic.」

Mia continued to write fluently on her notebook.

◆Acid Burst

Shoot strong acid. Attack magic.

◆Ice Sword

Grows an ice sword from your hand.

◆Breath in Water

Able to breath in water.

◆Resist Ice

Opposite of fire magic.

「《Acid Burst》which belongs to attack magic, is a useful magic, only that its range is not too far, and that it can only reach 5 to 6 meters away.」

Splashing acid is a very scary thing. But if you really want to say it, shooting fireworks is also scary. But in terms of attack magic, there is this sort of feelings.

「As an attack magic,《Acid Burst》useful region seems to be wider than《Sonic Edge》of Rank 2 Wind Magic. From this angle, it is actually not bad.」

Mia's opinion is very unique, it has the irritating feeling. But, Rank 2 Earth Magic does not have attack magic, so there is always better to have rather than none……

「The problem is other magics. If there is no need for a physical close combat, then there is no need for《Ice Sword》. As for《Breath in Water》…… If there is a lake, then it will be useful.」

「So the main point is here. In this terrain which is situated in the deep mountains, there is no way to completely showcase the full might of Water Magic.」

Mia nodded to express her agreement.

「Right, do you still need me to say about the other magics?」

「Next time.」

I shook my head at the happy Mia, finally ending the discussion this time……

I pressed the confirm button on the computer, and left the white room, returning to our battlefield, continuing our battles.